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THURSDAY, JUNE 28TH, 2012

Men stabbed – murder investigation launched in Nanttyffyllon

SOUTH WALES police has launched a murder investigation following an incident in Nanttyffyllon during the evening of Tuesday, June 26.

The police say that at around 9pm, two males were discovered in Tonna Road, both with serious stab wounds. One, named as Thomas Sutton, aged 20, died from his injuries.

The other has been admitted to hospital where his condition is described as "critical".

The police said the crime scene is being preserved at the location.

A police spokesperson added: "No further information is available at this early stage in the investigation."

Anyone who has any information about the incident, or who may have noticed anything suspicious in the area is urged to call 101. Alternatively, they can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Bridgend women sing out for cancer care charity



ABOVE: This Bridgend rock choir took part in a world record attempt last Saturday when they joined hundreds of similar choirs around the UK to sing the same song ('When You're Gone', a hit for Bryan Adams and Mel C), all starting at precisely the same time, at noon. The attempt was to raise funds for Breast Cancer Care Cymru.

10-year jail sentence for Pyle paedophile

A PYLE paedophile who preyed upon children, has been jailed for 10 years at Cardiff Crown Court.

Barrie Mably (31) of Heol Ty Maen, abused four girls. He was found guilty at a previous hearing of one charge of attempted rape, four of indecent assault, and two of sexual assault. He was cleared of a charge of rape.

Judge William Gaskell told him: "You have shown no remorse whatsoever and you maintain your denials, despite compelling evidence. You have received no credit for a guilty plea."

Prosecutor Matthew Roberts said the offences occurred over a 10-year period in the Pyle and Ogmere Vale area.

Mably denied all the charges and claimed the

CROWN COURT REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

girls had been lying. His counsel Jennette Trehearne said: "He is not predatory and did not lure his victims. This behaviour occurred when he was alone with them."

She pointed out that he had already been on remand for 18 months.

"Some of the offences were opportunist, and isolated. At the time he was in his late teens and early 20s."

Mably, she said, had some problems in the past relating to his mental health.

"Upon his release, he wants to start afresh in Bristol, in an area where he is unknown. He has

no relevant convictions."

The judge said the offences occurred between 1999 and 2009.

One girl was aged nine, another aged six.

He pretended to play a game with them and, shortly after, indecently assaulted them.

One girl aged eight was held against a bed and Mably attempted to rape her. She was then told not to say anything.

Another two victims were aged seven and nine, and one of them was humiliated by Mably.

The judge directed that when released, he register as a sex offender for life and he was banned from working with children indefinitely.

Judge Gaskell also imposed a Sexual Offences Prevention Order, which forbids Mably from approaching any girl under the age of 16.

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Recognising the contribution of the Armed Forces

IT is a small world... Last week, 120 members of 20 Commando Brigade, accompanied by the Band of the Grenadier Guards, marched into the Palace of Westminster at the invitation of the House of Commons to thank them for their recent service in Afghanistan.

It was a very pleasant surprise to discover that among the 120 was Private Robert Derbyshire, a Combat Medic from Bryntrinion and the grandson of Angela Bolton, the wonderful former head teacher at Ysgol Cefn Glas.

With all the Government announcements and debates surrounding what ships, planes and weapons we should be equipping our military with in the future, it is easy to forget that at their core, the armed forces are about human beings putting their lives on the line on whatever mission they are sent.

Private Derbyshire joined the army at 19 and has now served for six years, with decorations for his service.

He sees his future in the forces. As a Combat Medic, he is attached to units of soldiers and accompanies them while out on patrol. His role is to provide medical care, often in very difficult circumstances.

The Army has

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive report from Westminster for GEM readers.



equipped him with innumerable skills and experiences that I am sure will stand him in good stead for the future.

20 Commando Brigade were not the only members of the armed forces to visit Westminster. Veterans of the Queen's Dragoon Guards (QDG) recently travelled to London to lobby Ministers about the future of the Regiment.

As part of the Ministry of Defence's programme of budget cuts, there is a proposal to cut the army from over 100,000 to 82,000. There will be a greater reliance on reservists and as a result, well-known regiments may be amalgamated, being consigned to the history books in the process.

The QDG is one of Wales' three regiments and the only one to be armoured. It has a very long history, dating back in one form or another 300 years, having been involved in most major conflicts since the Second World War, most recently Afghanistan. Even once someone

has left the army, the regiment remains part of a soldier's identity and wider family, which is why it is so important to protect QGD. Not only that, as a Welsh regiment, it recruits from Wales.

If it were to be lost, the 'golden thread' of recruitment with Welsh communities would be lost. The campaign to save the Regiment has gathered its own momentum.

I have received many postcards from constituents supporting the campaign and I have written to the Secretary of State making the case for the Regiment to remain as it is. An announcement is expected soon.

While the reasons for the two visits were very different, their common theme of the individuals who contribute to our armed forces will be celebrated on Armed Forces Day, this year falling on June 30.

Like last year, I am hosting an exhibition in the Houses of Parliament called 'Standing Next To You.' Each contributor has provided a photograph of when they were serving, a current photograph and a biography, including some comment on how their military service influences the work they do now.

The idea is to acknowledge that the armed forces are all around us. The contributors this year come from all parts of the Houses of Parliament; committee clerks, police officers, MPs, Peers and doorkeepers. All three services

are represented.

Each contributor has a great tale to tell – the depth of experience and range of places visited is immense.

I hope the exhibition does them justice, it is positioned in the Royal Gallery in the House of Lords and will after a week move to the Ministry of Defence for a further seven days. The exhibition has been funded by Hewlett Packard, which has many staff who are ex-forces.

Also standing next to you are those hard workers who help make communities good place to live. The period of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has been a great opportunity for communities to come together and celebrate.

Sadly the weather did not come on side but people's hard work still went ahead despite the wind and the rain.

I attended a number of events in Porthcawl, where there was something new every day. The same has been true in Kenfig Hill this week where the community festival has been a great success.

We all owe a great deal of thanks to the organisers of such events which pull communities together.

Finally, I must yet again try and lay a common mistake to rest. Every now and again I am asked how I like living in my big house in Maudlam. Twice last weekend, people I know well have asked me this question.

The house in question is a beautiful, large detached house at the entrance to Maudlam village and across the road from the Angel Inn.

I don't live there, have never lived there. I have for the past 30 years lived in Porthcawl and come home from Westminster to relax to the sound of the wind and the sea.

TIP-TAPPING AWAY AT HOPE!



The Shoestring dancers wowed the audience, making the most of the wooden floor with their tap/folk routine.

SHOESTRING APPALACHIAN BAND ENTERTAIN THE WI

THE June meeting of the Brackla/Bridgend WI took place in the Sunday school hall of Hope Church.

This turned out to be an energetic and very entertaining event with the Shoestring Appalachian Band and Dancers.

The music was enjoyable to listen to on its own, but with the tap/folk-type dance, enhanced by the wooden floor, it was a very enjoyable event that members could not help but take part in at the close of the show.

Thanks to all the members who provided refreshments and to our hostesses for the evening Evelyn and Lluella, it was a memorable event.

June Mills gave the vote of thanks.

Our business went on a little longer than expected due to the amount of events forthcoming. Our president Pauline gave a report on the NFWI AGM, and brought to



The Shoestring band played for the meeting.

the attention of members items of interest in the newsletter.

A craft meeting will be held in Laleston on July 10 at 2pm for those members entering items in the Glamorgan Show.

Our next meeting will be held in the Hope Church Hall on Tuesday July 17, and will be a talk on St Teilo's Church, now in St Fagan's Welsh History Museum, and will be followed by a visit in August. TVB

Bridgend Bridge Club results

RECENT Bridgend Bridge Club results are as follows:

Wednesday June 20: First – Ray Smith and John Evans; Second – Andrew Scott and Liam Sheridan; Third – Linda Pinnock and Dennis Mottram.

Friday June 22: First – John Henson and Terry Dolan; Second – John and Christine Evans; Third – Linda Pinnock and Marjorie Morris.

In addition to the regular club nights on Wednesdays and Fridays at Nolton Church Hall at 7pm, there are lessons for beginners with Graham Jones also on Fridays at 7pm. Lessons for improvers will resume in the autumn – all welcome.

Contact Graham Jones (01446 775952), Steve Burgoine (01656 661958) or David Newman (01656 6439138).

Orchestra's big date in Porthcawl

THE Rhondda Symphony Orchestra is presenting an evening of French music at All Saint's Church, Porthcawl on Sunday, July 1 at 7.30pm.

The orchestra leader is Joanna Walters, and the conductor is Donal Bannister.

A spokesman said: "The RSO is one of the oldest established amateur symphony orches-

tras in Wales. It was formed in 1968 and gave its first performance in 1970. Today it is regarded as one of the finest amateur orchestras within the UK."

Tickets available at the door, £7.50 adults (£6 concessions), under 18s free. Tickets can be ordered by phone on 01443 650412; email www.rhondasympphonyorchestra.org.uk.

Remembering the forgotten on Armed Forces Day

THIS Saturday (June 30) the nation celebrates the commitment and dedication of our military personnel with Armed Forces Day.

This annual event is a time for us all to think about the work of those men and women who serve in our Forces.

We should also remember that behind these brave individuals are the parents, partners and families of our troops.

These people can sometimes be forgotten, but bear the burden of Service life as much as those who are serving themselves.

The Bridgend division of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help not only supports our Service personnel, past

and present, but also their families and dependents.

SSAFA Bridgend seeks to find ways that we can help where there is a genuine need. There can be anything from support for a mother whose son has been seriously injured in conflict, to a new television for the elderly widow of a D-Day veteran.

It just takes one day's service to be eligible and that includes anyone who undertook National Service and their wives or widows.

If you or someone you know in Bridgend CBC has served in the military or has a military connection and needs help, then the local branch of SSAFA is here to assist. We can be contacted on 01656 785435.

DAVE DAVIES TD, Bridgend.

DODGING THE BROWN STUFF

DOWN the road with my Nordic poles I go, most days, early morning – dodging the traffic on Tondur road – and on down to the green bridge.

From here on, I dodge something else – piles of brown stuff. It's on path and pavement, even in the road.

And along Black Path you'll see little black sacks dotting the way where other piles of brown stuff were picked

up then dumped anyway. You know what I'm talking about; those irresponsible owners.

Others like me try to enjoy a walk, or just get from A to B without fouling our shoes. We must do it by watching the ground instead of looking around.

Responsible owners probably feel that we blame them as well – we don't.

To those who don't pick up and take it home I say – shame on you! ALEX MARSHALL, Pen-y-Fai

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BRAVE

BCBC is flying the Armed Forces Day flag until the day itself - this Saturday, June 30.



BCBC proud to fly the Armed Forces Day flag

WITH Armed Forces Day this weekend, Bridgend County Borough Council is once again flying the flag in honour of Britain's servicemen and women.

The flag was raised by local veteran Paul Mockett MBE outside the Civic Offices in Angel Street, Bridgend, in a formal ceremony on Monday June 25. It will fly each day up to and including Armed Forces Day itself on

Saturday June 30.

The flag-raising ceremony was attended by a number of local dignitaries including the new Mayor of Bridgend county borough, Coun Marlene Thomas, members of BCBC's cabinet, Chief Executive Jo Farrar, Madeleine Moon MP, and Janice Gregory AM.

Royal British Legion Bridgend

branch president Fred Robinson led veterans in a formal salute.

Mayor Thomas said: "It is always a pleasure to welcome representatives of the Armed Forces family. And while we welcome them today, we are reminded that so many thousands of their colleagues are serving all around the world to make it a safer, fairer place."

Meanwhile, the Bridgend & County Borough Veterans Association will hold its Armed Forces Day parade thorough Bridgend town centre on Saturday, beginning at 12.30pm and ending at approximately 1.30pm.

The parade will be led by the South Wales Police band and the Welsh Transport Regiment RLC with local VIPs in attendance.

Veterans will march from Bridgend YMCA to the town centre war memorial, where there will be a celebratory tribute to the Armed Forces.

It is hoped that residents will turn out in their hundreds to applaud the parade and join in prayers and hymns around the war memorial.

The parade will be followed by a concert in the Bowls Centre of Bridgend Recreation Centre.

Major Wayne Morgan MBE, who is chair of the Bridgend & County Borough Veterans Association, and whose committee is organising the parade, said: "This is about celebrating our Armed Forces, both regular and reserve."

"These are young men and women who serve in the most difficult of jobs in defence of our nation and others around the world."

"Bridgend can be extremely proud of its contribution and unqualified support to our Armed Forces."

Kenfig Hill cadets are on target!

WELL done to the shooting team from 2117 (Kenfig Hill) Squadron ATC, they are No3 Welsh Wing Full Bore Shooting Champions for 2012.

The team: SCWO Fitzgibbon (captain), Cdt Sgt Aston, Cdt Cpl Young and Cdt Cpl Townsend; took part in the competition at MoD St Athan.

CWO Fitzgibbon was especially pleased as he

was told he obtained the highest score on the day.

Wing Commander Mike Stones, Officer Commanding No3 Welsh Wing, was pleased to present the trophy to the cadets.

He praised them for their achievement and said he was looking forward to them representing the Wing at the Region Championships later in the year.

LINDSAY THOMAS
Secretary Civilian Committee

Cor Bro Ogwr summer concert

THERE will be 'something for all tastes' on Saturday (June 30) at Cor Bro Ogwr's Gala Night of Opera and Musical Theatre.

Under the baton of the choir's popular Musical Director, Edward-Rhys Harry, the choir is already well-travelled and is looking forward to another 'first' next May.

Following the performance last year of Edward's re-created

'Emmanuel' by Joseph Parry, the choir has been invited to perform it again with a Welsh choir in Pennsylvania, where Joseph Parry spent some of his early years. Possible concerts in Philadelphia and New York are also on the agenda.

Saturday's concert will be in All Saints' Church, Porthcawl, at 7.30pm. Tickets from choir members/secretary 01565 784180, or at the door.

Rescue team are the Welsh champions!

A BRIDGEND team of firefighters won the 2012 All Wales extrication competition at Cardiff Gate Training and Development Centre on June 16.

Teams from Ebbw Vale, Malpas, Porthcawl, and Aberdare also took part, with one guest team entering from London Fire and Rescue Service.

"This year's theme for the scenarios was multiple car collisions with limited space to release the casualty from the primary car," a spokesperson for South Wales Fire and Rescue Service explained.

"As the teams undertook their respective scenario, the other teams and the sizeable number of spectators took a keen interest in the various methods used to complete the tasks."

The presentation to Bridgend then took place, with the runners-up being the team from Aberdare. These teams will now represent SWFRS at the British Extrication Competition.

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Andy Thomas said: "I would like to thank all of the teams for taking part in the event, including the two new teams from Ebbw Vale and Malpas and the London team."

"The aim of this competition is to improve South Wales Fire and Rescue Service (SWFRS) personnel's skills when dealing with road traffic collisions and it is hoped that the 2013 event will attract more teams from stations within the service, which will enhance our vision of 'making our communities the safest place to live, work and visit.'"

Young singer and actor is off to join National Theatre

A YOUNG Porthcawl actor is staging a fundraising evening to help with the cost of joining the UK National Youth Theatre for the summer.

Joe Wiltshire-Smith recently became the only young actor from Wales to make it into the National Youth Theatre's summer project - a selection process that whittled 4,600 applications down to just 50.

Just to emphasise his talent, he has been moved up into the 19-24 age group, rather than the 14-18 age group he auditioned for.

Joe, a year-12 pupil at Porthcawl Comprehensive School, will spend six weeks of his holidays with the NYT in Manchester, and the fact that he was accepted will come as no surprise to anyone who has watched his progress through the Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT) and in Porthcawl



ABOVE:

Joe Wiltshire-Smith, who is holding a fundraising evening on July 10.

Comprehensive School productions.

Over the last five years, he has played leading roles in *Guys and Dolls*, *Blood Brothers*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Miserables*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and, most recently, the title role in *Billy - the Musical*.

The fundraising evening will take place

on July 10, at 6.45pm, in the Jubilee Theatre in Porthcawl Comprehensive School, and Joe has promised that a number of talented friends from the youth theatre and elsewhere will be performing as well.

Tickets will be on sale on the door.

PHILIP IRWIN

Generous Bridgend tops the giving league



Paula Evans, with Boycie, Sandra Wynne with Gabe, Jon Trew, with Renee and Cookie, James Evans with Joey, and Kerry Baker with Whitney

WE would like to thank the very generous people of Bridgend for their donations to Greyhound Rescue Wales on May 12.

We collected a whopping £444.48 as part of our street collection in the town centre.

Thank you so much to everyone who gave. It costs our charity £6 per day to keep a greyhound at rescue kennels, so every pound is important.

Many of the people of who dropped by and stroked some of our retired racers, agreed that greyhounds make fantastic pets. Like us, they agree that the end of a greyhound's racing career (around age 3-4) shouldn't mean the end of its life.

We undertake regular street collections; however, the people of Bridgend have so far topped the league in

terms of their generosity. We are overwhelmed by their kindness.

The behaviour of two young teenage girls particularly stood out. The girls, probably around 12 or 13 were in town on their own to go shopping for clothes.

However, they first stopped by and gave us a donation and stroked the dogs. Ten minutes later they returned and gave a larger donation and stroked the dogs more.

Twenty minutes later

they returned again having decided not to spend any money on clothes, but instead had spent it all on treats for our dogs! Thank you!

If any GEM readers are considering getting a dog, please visit our regularly updated website and look at some of the stunning greyhounds and lurchers that need homes now. <http://www.greyhoundrescuewales.co.uk/> or ring our helpline on 0300 0123 999.

JON TREW, Barry.

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LOCAL NHS TRUST LOST £48,000 WHEN OVERSEAS PATIENT DID NOT PAY UP

A FOREIGN national who was not entitled to free treatment on the NHS owes Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board more than £48,000 – after failing to pay for emergency hospital treatment.

The debt has now been written off.

The problem of foreign nationals obtaining health care in the Bridgend, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot area

and then not paying, has been highlighted in a series of answers given to Regional AM Suzy Davies by ABMU NHS Trust.

Mrs Davies, who is a Welsh Conservative regional AM for south Wales west, submitted Freedom of Information requests asking for details of unpaid bills, after earlier information obtained by the party revealed that the amount outstanding at the end of 2011 was more than £250,000 for Wales as a whole.

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

The amount owed to ABMU was £46,973, but that does not include the £48,000 unpaid bill – which it wrote off.

The board has an overall collection rate of only 28 per cent – the lowest in Wales and below the all-Wales average of 43 per cent.

Mrs Davies asked ABMU what it was doing about this situation.

In its reply, the board revealed that the highest percentage of outstanding debt was from patients from the Philippines at 38 per cent. UK expatriates stood at 25 per cent and India had a further 25 per cent. Turkey produced 12 per cent of the outstanding debt.

The board has said it is now reminding staff who

register incoming patients to ask them if they have been resident in the UK for the past 12 months.

A report is also generated to identify all patients without a valid UK postcode. Patients who are identified as non UK residents are interviewed to ascertain their liability for payment for the treatment.

An ABMU spokeswoman said: "Over the past three years, ABMU has had an average collection rate of 46 per cent."

"The majority of overseas patients attend our hospitals as emergencies. We have a duty of care to patients, and in emergency cases it is not always possible to gain detailed personal or payment information before treatment begins."

"We are currently in the process of making credit card payment facilities available at all our main sites to make the payment process

quicker and easier."

Mrs Davies said she had looked at the figures provided by the trust.

She said: "More than 60 per cent of the treatment given to foreign nationals was classed as emergency with 22 per cent relating to pregnancy. Elective treatment accounted for six per cent and 11 per cent resulted from transfers from another hospital."

The unpaid £48,663 bill related to emergency treatment.

Mrs Davies said: "None is saying that we should deny emergency treatment to anyone, regardless of where they come from. But Wales and the UK cannot afford to be seen as a place to go for free health treatment or to have your baby."

"This is taking advantage of Welsh and UK residents who pay for their health services through their taxes."

"Other EU countries are not as generous and even make certain requirements of citizens of other EU countries before they will treat them."

"If UK citizens go abroad, they are expected to have expensive medical insurance. What's the difference?"

"It is time that ABMU tightened up its debt collecting service."

"Hospitals in England are demanding proof of residence by asking people to produce evidence of having lived in the UK for the previous year. They also bring chip and pin machines to people's bedside so that they can pay for their treatment there and then by card."

"Hospitals in ABMU should take credit card details in advance, as happens with many hotels and other businesses. If people leave without paying, they are able to debit the money."

"It is time for the NHS to become more businesslike and stop acting like it is a health service for people from all over the world who have never paid a penny into it."

Bethan (16) lands a prestigious volunteer award



ABOVE:

Bethan McAuley collects her award.

"PROLIFIC volunteer" Bethan McAuley (aged 16) was the centre mofwell earned praise and a moment in the spotlight after winning a prestigious national award from the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

Described as a "prolific volunteer" Bethan was a worthy winner in the young person category of the Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards 2012 on June 12.

The awards were given out at Cardiff Castle by BBC Wales TV and radio personality Frank Hennessy.

After moving to Wick, Bethan found the transition from town to country life a challenge.

A lack of services for young people in the area prompted her to become a mentor for others following in her footsteps, helping them to integrate.

She trained as a youth leader and volunteers at her local youth club, running events and activities.

Bethan is a young firefighter at the local fire station, a volunteer inspector of youth groups across the Vale, has qualified as a Young Leader, is

Secretary/Treasurer of the Vale Youth Forum, and has completed more than 200 hours of volunteering as a Millennium volunteer.

"Bethan is an outstanding role model for other young people, setting an excellent example for them to follow," said nominator Conway Hawkins, the senior youth worker at Wick Youth Club.

"At the youth club, she is an inspiration – and local youth leaders often joke that

they don't need to be there at all, as she can run it on her own."

The club and the wider community would be a poorer place without her and her many voluntary efforts are more than worthy of recognition."

Bethan said: "After two years of doing something I enjoy, winning the Volunteer of the Year Award is something I never thought would happen, and I'm so surprised that I have."

Hayley's talk on Porthcawl's paranormal phenomena!



ABOVE: Hayley Williams talking at the Swan Inn.

A GEM columnist who specialises in researching the paranormal, gave a lecture last week in Porthcawl.

Hayley Williams gave a "ghostly talk" for the Porthcawl Paranormal Team in the Swan Inn, Nottage.

She told The GEM: "The talk was due to be followed by a walk around local places of

interest. Unfortunately, the weather was against us, as the rain fell heavily."

"Tracey Walmsley showed eerie photographs which we have collected over the last six years, and the audience found them fascinating."

"Overall, the evening was a terrific success, even though the walk was out of bounds due to slippery roads."

Fairtrade shop has re-opened

'SUSSED', Porthcawl's Fairtrade shop, has re-opened after relocating to new premises.

It is now based at 4, James Street, Porthcawl, with the offices of the charity that developed it, 'Sustainable Wales,' located above.

The director of Sustainable Wales, Margaret Minihinnick, said: "The project is also creating community based employment opportunities for two young graduates under the Jobs Growth Wales programme."

"They will be helping to support volunteers who work in the shop, to develop membership, expand the borough's Fairtrade campaign, and help organise activities and events."

"A grand reopening

date will be announced in the autumn, but for now SUSSED is offering new fairly-traded stock, and goods created by local craftspeople."

"Ranges include accessories and dresses, cushions, covers and furnishings, gifts, and distinctive furniture made with recycled wood from 'the Green Man' of Pontardawe."

She added: "Relocation has been a major undertaking."

Without the efforts of volunteers such as Saulat Abbasi, John Howley, Etienne Cronje, John Bunker, graduates David Cobbleddick, Michael Gore and Luke Evans, plus a host of others, this reopening would have been impossible."

For more information, telephone 01656 783405, or e-mail: mm@sustainablewales.org.uk

Inquiry after pet terrapin found in river

THE RSPCA is appealing for information after an abandoned terrapin was fished out of the river Ogmere.

A member of the public noticed the exotic pet struggling to climb up a concrete bank before sliding back in to the water on Wednesday, June 20 at Aber Road in Ogmere Vale.

RSPCA inspector Nigel Duguid said: "Pet shops often sell terrapins very cheaply, but they are quite tricky to keep. They can grow quickly, need large aquaria with appropriate basking areas and their water

must be changed regularly."

"It is unacceptable to dump an animal like this. Not only it cruel, but terrapins are a non-native species and so could potentially have a harmful impact on other wildlife. We would urge anyone with information about this matter to contact us as soon as possible."

The terrapin is now in the care of the RSPCA. Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact the RSPCA cruelty and information line on 0300 1234 999. Calls will be treated in confidence.

Who wants to build what and where in the borough?

Lloyds TSB bank plc – Bank Buildings, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend – Replacement illuminated ATM, ATM collar, A1 Marketing Unit and statutory vinyls. BCBC Parks Department – 2,3,4,5, and 6 Heol Penderyn, Brackla – Cut back branches of trees that are overhanging rear gardens (1989) OBC No 05). Valleys 2 Coast Housing – 66 Ael y Bryn, North Cornelly – Proposed demo-

lition of no. 66 Ael y Bryn. Valleys 2 Coast Housing – 1-8 Heol Arfryn, 8-12 West View and 1-4 City Road, Bettws – Demolition of 17 properties within Heol Arfryn, West View and City Road. Valleys 2 Coast Housing – Plas Morlais, North Cornelly – Demolition of 21 no. dwellings on Plas Morlais. Valleys 2 Coast Housing – 8-11, 19-22, 146/147, 160-162 Oakwood, Maesteg –

Demolition of 13 properties on Oakwood. Mr A J Curran – 18 Garth Street, Kenfig Hill – Single storey extension to rear of dwelling. Mr Gareth Edwards – 22 Sycamore Close, Litchard – Garage conversion and garden retaining wall. Mr David Winn-Davies – Land rear of Lyndale, Wig Fach, Laleston – Lawful development certificate for existing use of land to the rear as a garden for more

than 10 years. Mr A Tyndale-Biscoe – 87 Merthyrmaur Road, Bridgend – Ground and first floor extension. Mr Christopher Blackwell – Unit 27, Bocam Park, Pencoed – Change of use of office to fitness centre. Mr Vaughan Thomas – 20 Bradfield Avenue, Bridgend – First floor side extension. Mr G Goldoni – Land adjacent 8 Heol y Foelas, Bryntirion – Erect 1 no.

two-bed detached dwelling. Mr S Morrison – Glenkeith, Heol Canola, Bryncoch, Brynecethin – Demolish existing conservatory and erect new sun room. Mr G Smith – 15 Celtic Road, Maesteg – Detached garage to rear garden. Mr D Roberts – 90 Heol Croesty, Pencoed – Conservatory to southern elevation. Mr S Flaherty – 5 The Dell, Laleston – Two storey extension for a lounge, bed-

room en-suite and utility room, and single storey extension for a sun room. Mr Hibbs – Sycamore Cottage, Bryn Coch Road, Coychurch – Storm porch to front elevation. HD Ltd – Cae Court, 12 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – Proposed extension to Cae Court Nursing Home. Mr P Norris – 1 Cwrt Ty Mawr off North Road, Ogmere Vale – Garage conversion.

Mr Ken Berry – 23G Cefn Road, Cefn Cribwr – New vehicle hardstanding and ramped access. Mr R Lean – Oaklands Farm, Rhiwceilog, Pencoed – Prior notification for proposed barn to store straw and winter forage. Mr John Evans – Angel Fish Bar, Angel Street, Bridgend – Change of use from A3 (Food and Drink) to D1 non-residential.

Blackmill base for mountain the BAD Bikes!



PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail ffotomage@tiscali.co.uk telephone 07791 228684.
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

RECENTLY, The GEM reported on the opening of a new mountain bike group in Blackmill, BAD Bikes, which aims to offer training opportunities for young people.

A spokesman told The GEM: "BAD Bikes initially started as a mountain bike group that moved on to offering activities, training and volunteering - all based around mountain biking.

"It maintains its strong links with cycling and all its rides are based within the ward. Through cycling, we promote team working, risk assessment, map reading route planning, safe riding techniques, together with cycle maintenance.

"The group has now expanded its portfolio to include environmental, artistic and various other sporting activities.

"In addition, we are also dedicated to getting young people who are economically inactive back into employment, education or training, and there are also dedicated activities for those aged eight to 12 years, entitled 'BAD Play'."

The spokesman continued: "There are full school holiday programmes which are based on consultation with the children and young people who engage.

"BAD Bikes also operates a time banking system where those who have volunteered their time have priority on trips as rewards.

"Over the last three years, BAD Bikes have become dedicated to working with young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET), and we offer CV writing, training, support and awareness raising of opportunities available. BAD Bikes is also an approved ASDAN Centre."

Anyone aged eight to 25 years old can get involved, and for more



information, contact: Williams (07791 637717, Andy McKay (07915 lauraangharad@gmail.com 077299, andrewmck-om)

MP meets local combat medic



ABOVE: Madeleine Moon MP with Private Robert Derbyshire (Picture by Elaine Jude)

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon joined celebrations to thank members of 20 Commando Brigade who had just returned from serving in Afghanistan.

They included Private Robert Derbyshire, a Combat Medic from Bryntirion, and the grandson of Angela Bolton, former head-teacher of Ysgol Castell Newydd.

A total of 120 members of 20 Commando Brigade paraded into the House of Commons, accompanied by the Band of the Grenadier Guards to be welcomed by MPs. They then attended a reception.

Madeleine Moon said: "It was a great pleasure to meet a constituent

among the group, and to hear about the experiences of him and his colleagues while serving in Afghanistan.

"As a combat medic, Private Derbyshire is on the frontline in the event of one of his colleagues needing medical attention. He also offered medical help to Afghan civilians.

"His commitment and bravery, in the face of difficult situations we can only imagine, are inspiring.

"The day was Parliament's way of conveying our thanks to the personnel and by extension to their families, for the hard work during operations and their selfless dedication.

"Many of them had spent a long time away from home and this was a small way of showing our appreciation."

Disabled Association's fishing spectacular is voted a success



Kyle Cranford, Pencoed School.



Laura Goldsmith of Valleys Gateway Day Centre



Rhys Edwards of Heronsbridge School



Ryan Woodridge of Ysgol Bryn Castell



Karen Tregoing, daughter of Byron Morgan, presenting the Cup to the captain of the winning team.

ON a pleasant sunny day on June 13, members of the Bridgend and District Disabled Association were supervised a fishing competition at Seven Oaks fishery, Ystradowen, Cowbridge.

Our thanks go to the owners of Seven Oaks, for hosting the event.

Taking part were 24 children and adults in total, comprising six in each team from Heronsbridge School, Bridgend, Ysgol Bryn Castell, Bridgend, Pencoed School and the Valleys Gateway Day Centre, Sarn.

The competition proved to be so special and enjoyable for everyone, with a marquee set up by the Rotary Club and refreshments provided.

The theme of the day was to create a carnival atmosphere with some

helpers dressed up in cowboys and Indians outfits. This added to the excitement and success of the 24 competitors, who each caught two fish for a total of 48 fish landed on the day.

The overall result was extremely close and the winner was based on the weight of fish caught by each of the four teams participating:

Heronsbridge School - total weight 12³/₄ lb; Ysgol Bryn Castell - total weight 12³/₄ lb; Pencoed School - total weight 13¹/₂ lb; Valleys Gateway Day Centre - total weight 13³/₄ lb.

The chairman of the association, Mr Ralph Merchant, awarded special medallions to the individual team member who recorded the heaviest bag of two fish.

The winners were: Heronsbridge, Rhys Edwards; Ysgol Bryn Castell, Ryan Woodridge; Pencoed

School, Kyle Cranford; Valleys Gateway Centre, Laura Goldsmith.

The main presentation of the day 'The Byron Morgan Cup,' was proudly handed to the captain of the winning team, Valleys Gateway Centre by Karen Tregoing, the daughter of Byron Morgan, who congratulated the team on their success.

The committee of the Bridgend Fishing for the Disabled Association undertakes similar events once a month throughout the year.

This is a most rewarding experience in assisting members of the community, and volunteers are always welcomed to assist for two to three hours on the day.

For anyone interested, fishing experience is not essential. Contact Mr R Merchant on 01656 660683. JD

Music society's concert for the Eisteddfod

On Sunday, June 17, Tabernacl Music Society held a delightful summer concert at Tabernacl, Bridgend, to raise funds for the National Eisteddfod in the Vale of Glamorgan later this year.

The choir, directed by Kevin Adams and accompanied on piano and organ by Steven Burgess, sang a variety of songs in English and Welsh. Their programme included spirituals, traditional and modern, as well as familiar folk-songs such as

'Bugeilio' Gwyneth Gwyn'. At the end of the first half, the choir was joined by sixth former Sophie Gregory from Treorchy to perform Arwel Hughes' 'Gweddi'.

While the choir sang in Latin, Sophie carried the Welsh melodic line beautifully, her voice having the range and depth required for a moving performance.

Tabernacl Choir was supported by 'Minnesingers' and 'Champagne Flutes'. Minnesingers are a small group of men from Pontyclun, directed by Mervyn Williams, who also accompanied them.

Their programme varied from spirituals with a touch of barber-shop, to modern Welsh songs such as 'Yfori', as well as traditional English madrigals and the favourite 'Y Tangneddwy', a challenge for a small group.

The group produced soloists when needed and each item was performed confidently and with great musicality. The audience much appreciated their versatility.

There are four 'Champagne Flutes', Sheila Adams, Vanessa Bryant, Karen Hnyda and Lynda Jeffery, each one a teacher of woodwind in local schools, who joined together about five years ago.

Much of their repertoire is specially arranged for them, as original work for four flutes is scarce. To that end, one of the items they played was composed by Kevin Adams, Movement One of a Flute Quartet.

The rest of their programme contained lyrical pieces, as well as some that older listeners recognised, such as 'Parade of the Tin Soldiers' and 'Little Red Monkey', the signature tune to a Sunday night serial from the 1950s.

Champagne Flutes also accompanied the ladies of Tabernacl choir when they sang 'Lift Thine Eyes' from Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' - a sustained and serene performance.

The concert ended fittingly when all the performers and the audience joined together to sing T Rowland Hughes' and Arwel Hughes' great hymn: 'Tydi a Rhoddai'.

Tabernacl's next concert will be on December 9 when the choir will sing Karl Jenkins' 'The Armed Man'. Eira Paskin

Story time and treats for children at library



ABOVE: Children listen to a story at Betws Library.

A CHILDREN'S party was held at Betws Library to celebrate National Bookstart Week, when they enjoyed treats donated by Tesco Maesteg and Flying Start, before listening to stories and decorating fairy cakes.

"National Bookstart Week encourages families to enjoy books with their children from as early an age as possible, by offering free books to all children before they start school," a spokesman explained.

Quiz posers

- 1) What title was given to the eldest son of the King of France?
- 2) What were supporters of James II and his Stuart descendants called?
- 3) Who in 1984 was the last cricketer to score over a 1,000 runs and take 100 wickets in an English first-class season?
- 4) On September 30th 1955, if Donald Turnpudd escaped with minor facial

injuries driving a Ford Tudor and passenger Rolf Wutherich survived with several broken bones - which famous celebrity was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital?

A RUDGE (for Quiz League)

- 1) Dauphin
- 2) Jacobites
- 3) Donald Hadlee
- 4) James Dean

PARK WALKS

Park rangers have planned two free events at Bryngarw Country Park and Bedford Park.

On Sunday, July 1, guided ramblers open to all ages take place in Bryngarw, Brynmenyn and at Bedford Park, Cefn Cribwr on Sunday, July 8. Both rambles start at 11am and last approximately an hour and a half.

Maesteg rallies to Friends' 50th fete for hospital

BRILLIANT sunshine greeted the crowds who turned out for the 50th anniversary of the Maesteg Hospital League of Friends summer fete, which was held this year at the Celtic Club in Garth on June 20.

The car park housed the fairground rides, bouncy castle, food outlets and games, while the large hall and lounge were filled with various stalls and attractions for young and old.

It became a bit of a squeeze as everyone vied to bag a bargain from the many stalls, but refreshments were available and the cakes and pasties provided by Talgarth Bakery were soon snapped up by hungry visitors.

A choir of youngsters from Garth Primary School, together with their teacher, Ceri Hodgson, came along to sing a number of songs, and they received a great ovation from everyone in the hall.

The 'groundworks' crew, who are installing the Market Garden in Caerau, attracted many visitors to their stall, where children planted pumpkin seeds and had



ABOVE: cake in the shape of the hospital!

a go on the 'electricity bike'.

Maria and Roy George of Maria's Café in Commercial Street came up with the idea of making a cake in the shape of the hospital (see photo, above). This was then raffled and raised a fantastic £232 for the fund.

Staff and young people from Maesteg Comprehensive School constructed a rugby game, Maesteg Lions came along with their teddy bear stall, and the glitter tattoos and face painting proved to be very popular.

Mr John Lewis, the long time treasurer of the league, was unable to attend on the day due to illness. However, Mr Wyn Griffiths, the chair-

man of ABMU Health Board, and Mr Ross Thomas, Deputy Mayor of Maesteg, were there to support the event.

The Maesteg Hospital League of Friends committee would like to thank everyone who manned the stalls to raise money for the hospital, and who contributed so much to making the day a huge success.

Also, thanks to the committee of the Celtic Club, who were so helpful in making the venue available for the fete.

And, of course, many thanks to the people of Maesteg who unfailingly turn out, come rain or shine, to support the work of their local hospital.

LW

BRYNTEG STUDENTS ARE WELL-VERSED IN PUBLIC ART PROJECT

STUDENTS at Brynteg Comprehensive School have been working with Bridgend County Borough Council's arts development team and Bridgend-born poet Rhian Edwards to develop the public artwork that is to be installed at Cheapside as part of the improvements being made to the area.

Following a call for artists to undertake the design work, a shortlist was selected and tasked to submit their designs. After an exhibition of the work was held in February at the Civic Offices in Bridgend, David Annand was selected for the Cheapside Public Art



ABOVE: Brynteg Comprehensive School students with Rhian Edwards.

Commission to develop and finish his artwork by October 2012, which coincides with the completion of the upgrading work at Cheapside.

The arts development team held a two-day workshop with the students and Rhian to

develop three lines of poetry which will form part of David's final design. Funded by a grant under the European Convergence Programme and managed by BCBC and Elbow Room, the artwork will complement physical improvements

currently being made to Cheapside, which include new paving, street lighting, road resurfacing and landscaping, aiming to create a more attractive environment to encourage people to visit the town centre along this route.

The project at Cheapside is part of the wider Bridgend Town Centre Regeneration Programme, which is being funded by the Welsh Government, the European Regional Development Fund and BCBC.

BOROUGH VOLUNTEERS COLLECT THEIR AWARDS



ABOVE: Volunteers who were awarded 'highly commended' certificates at Brynagarw House, are pictured with Janice Gregory AM and Heidi Bennett (in black dress) director of BAVO.

BRIDGEND county borough volunteers have been praised for their work in the community.

BAVO (Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations) recently held a celebration event at Brynagarw House in Brynmenyn, Bridgend attended by Janice Gregory AM. 'Highly commended' certificates were presented under the Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards.

A spokesperson stated that over a million people in Wales volunteer or help, taking on a wide range of tasks and giving up their time in an effort to make Wales a better place, yet they often receive little, if any, recognition.

Win Griffiths, WCVA Chair said: "All our volunteers are an inspiration – and the number of people nominated each year shows us just how strong the third sector is in Wales."

The awards included five categories, including adults over 25, young people under 25, a 'green' volunteer, trustee and group.

Those that received 'Highly commended' certificates were: Charlina Bevan John, Young person under 25 (Bridge Mentoring Plus Scheme); Victoria Gibbs, Adult over 25 (Bridge

Mentoring Plus Scheme); David Whitchurch, Young person under 25 (Bridge Mentoring Plus Scheme); Alice Perkins, Young Person under 25 (Streets Ahead – the Wallich); Rob Gillet, Adult over 25 (Youth of Bettws); Pamela Jenkins, Trustee (Youth of Bettws); Doug Fraser, 'green' volunteer (The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales); Roger Marsh, Adult (Wildmill Community Life Centre Ltd); Parc Supporting Families – rroup, Clare Antony, Young person (Parc Supporting Families); Katy Connelly, Young person (Parc Supporting Families) and Josephine Taylor, Adult (Parc Supporting Families).

Heidi Bennett, Director of BAVO, said: "We are absolutely delighted that 11 local volunteers received highly commended awards across all categories, and I noted a higher number of young people were also awarded this year, highlighting the impact that the Youth Volunteering scheme 'Gwirvol' is having in our area."

BAVO, which is based in Maesteg, has over 300 registered voluntary organisations offering a wide range of opportunities.

Cadet takes on Small Ships Race challenge



Cdt Flt Sgt Cooper (first on left) with the other crew members.

KENFIG HILL Air Cadet, Cdt Flt Sgt Cooper, spent a week as a crew member on Challenge Wales recently, taking part in the London to Portland Small Ships Race.

There was a mixture of cadets from different Wings, making up a British team.

The event was a huge success for all the young trainees taking part and something they will remember for a very long time, especially as they were the winners of the coveted Seven Seas trophy.

There was a chance to meet the Countess of Wessex on the Friday when she paid the fleet a visit. She met and spoke to all of the crews, and looked around some of the boats.

Sail training is a challenging and fun way to develop self-confidence and change lives. It is not so much about learning to sail, but uses the

experience of being at sea as a means to help people learn about themselves, discover hidden strengths and talents, and understand the value of working as a team.

Participants learn to manage themselves and interact with others, dramatically boosting their self-awareness and confidence. ASTO (Association of Sail Training Organisations) exists to promote sail training and to support the provision of opportunities in the United Kingdom.

The money the cadets collect is used to fully or part fund activities for the cadets.

So, if ever you see our cadets out fundraising, whether it is bag packing or door collection in supermarkets, please donate if you can, you can be assured that the money will help the cadets attend events and activities they could only otherwise dream of.

LT

KPC Youth scoops £1,950

Rocking out the notes!



ABOVE: KPC Youth are celebrating a grant from the Co-op to go towards their Rock School project.

Breast screening

MORE than 2,100 women are being offered a free, potentially life-saving screening test by Breast Test Wales at Pyle between June and September.

Sited at the swimming pool car park, the NHS mobile screening unit offers free, high-quality breast screening by invitation only, to women aged 50 and above who are registered with local GP surgeries.

Dafydd Snelling, screening engagement specialist with Breast Test Wales, explained: "One in nine women in the UK have a lifetime risk of developing breast cancer, so early detection is vital."

For further information about breast screening, visit the Breast Test Wales website at: www.screeningservices.org.uk/bt

KENFIG HILL, Pyle and Cornelly Youth (KPC Youth) has received £1,950 from The Co-operative's Community Fund to continue running the Rock School Project, which encourages young people to get involved with music.

The Community Fund is created by members of The Co-operative Group who elect to donate all, or part, of their twice-yearly dividend payments directly to the scheme. The funds are then shared with local community projects and groups, such as the KPC Youth, across the country.

Alison Mawby, from KPC Youth, said: "We're delighted that the Co-operative has awarded us this generous grant, as the Rock School Project was such a success last year. Not only does it nurture musical talent, but it also builds self confidence and team work within the group."

"There is around £200,000 available in this region, each year, from the Community Fund, and we welcome applications from local groups and projects for £100 to £2,000," said Jessica Gunther, Co-operative spokesperson.

Crowds are out in force to enjoy as Kenfig Hill Festival Week finishes with a fun day



ABOVE: The Kenfig Flyers cheerleaders with Madeleine Moon MP, Coun Luke Ellis and Coun Kay John.
BELOW: The Shout over-50s group with Coun Ellis.



ABOVE: A young beekeeper.

Celebrity hairdresser shows how it's done



ABOVE: Organiser Ceri Edwards.



ABOVE: The finished look.



ABOVE: Lee Stafford at work on a model.

LEE STAFFORD, the celebrity hairdresser and star of TV shows such as *Secret Millionaire*, *The Hairdresser* and *Edward Scissorhands*, recently gave a demonstration to a sell-out audience of more than 140 south Wales hairdressers, at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.

The event was organized by Ceri Edwards, proprietor and managing director of Classic Looks Training Academy.

Spectators ranged from salon owners through to senior trainees, and they were treated to an in-depth look at Lee's new haircutting collection, as well as an insight in to his globe-trotting life.

Ceri said: "This is the first of many educational events that I want to hold in the area, as affordable

Photographs by
FRANK SHIPTON

Mobile - 07790 882925

Email - frankshipton@mac.com



ABOVE: The celebrity hairdresser gives his thoughts on hair design.

international class seminars and demonstrations only seem to happen outside this area.

"I feel that the south Wales hairdressers deserve to see the best on their doorstep"



ABOVE: It was festival week last week in Kenfig Hill, and it all culminated in a fun day at Kenfig Hill RFC's ground.
For a report and more photographs, see Richards Sims' column on page 28.

Trust chief set to hear of Porthcawl SHOUT's fears

MEMBERS of Porthcawl SHOUT Forum will welcome Win Griffiths, the chairman of the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University National Health Service Trust, at their next meeting in Trinity Church, Porthcawl on Friday, July 6.

Prior to becoming MP for Bridgend, during a political career that spanned more than three decades, he was a highly-respected teacher, holding posts in Tanzania, Birmingham and Barry, before becoming head of history at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

For 10 years, he was a member of the European Parliament, and also served as vice president.

During his 10 years as the Member of Parliament for Bridgend, Mr Griffiths, who was often seen answering questions at the 'despatch box' in the House of Commons, was a Front Bench spokesman for the environment and his responsibilities included health and social serv-

ices, local government, the countryside and people with disabilities. He also became the first Minister for Children in the UK.

He has also played a prominent role in health-related voluntary organisations such as the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, now called 'Action for Hearing Loss'.

For several years, he has been chairman of the Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

After serving as president of the Boys Brigade in Wales for 10 years, he was made honorary president of Porthcawl Choral Society and Kenfig Hill Male Voice Choir, and will feel at home at Trinity Church, as he also finds time to regularly preach at churches throughout the Bridgend Methodist Circuit as a lay preacher, including Trinity.

Porthcawl SHOUT Forum members have been expressing serious concern for some time that the inevitable reduction in funding for our health service will result in severe loss of services for local people.

We read the rumours in the press about 'fears that hours at the Princess of Wales A&E department could be cut'.

We even hear rumours that 'Neath, Port Talbot Hospital could close', with the added pressure that could bring to Bridgend.

We know that discharges from our hospital are taking place with alarming speed, sometimes in the middle of the night, and we question whether the additional support is in place to safeguard the interest of our members, particularly those who live alone.

This visit of Mr Win Griffiths to our forum will be a special opportunity, as we anticipate that he will let us have his board's vision for the future - and how it is intended to safeguard the most vulnerable in our community from the inevitable changes which will need to be made.

Members, associate members and non members are welcome to attend.

CLIVE MORT
Honorary Secretary

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Harmony ladies choir.

Two choirs I WENT to the concert organised by the Maesteg League of Friends in Maesteg Celtic Club last Friday with two contrasting choirs taking part, the Maesteg Gleemen male voice and Harmony ladies choir.

The witty compere for the evening was Anthony Bywe.

The Gleemen under their musical director Alun Hodges and accompanist Suzanne Best started proceedings with, 'Llanfair' and other varied items, sung with panache.

They were followed by 'Harmony' under its musical director and accompanist Wendy Murphy, this was a choir I hadn't heard before and they were great.

Their repertoire included the Duke Ellington hit, 'It don't mean a thing', and Bette Midler's hit 'From a distance.'

Then came young soprano Lauren Coates junior winner of the Bridgend young singer of the year competition.

She sang without the help of microphones 'On my own' from *Les Misérables* and the Eva Cassidy hit 'The water is wide'.

Then Harmony returned with more contrasting items including Karl Jenkins's 'Adiemus'.

The interval was followed by the chair of the League of Friends, John Thomas, being presented with a cheque from Asda supermarkets representatives for £1,143, which the Maesteg store had raised following the Welsh Government decree on the sale of plastic carrier bags for 5p each.

The Gleemen returned with John Denver's hit 'Perhaps Love', and tenor soloist Stuart Bevan sang 'Bring him home' from *Les Misérables*.

It transpired that Stuart's grandson, Kieran, had flown out to join the conflict in Afghanistan the day previous.

He is due to return in

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of *The GEM*:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



October. The choir sang the lovely Welsh hymn 'Bendigedig', and tenor Dave Little sang verses from 'The white rose'.

Winner of the Bridgend young singer of the year's senior section, Sebastian Waters, who joined the choir in another Welsh song, 'Cartref.'

'Harmony' then sang three more songs followed by Sebastian who performed 'Only you' from Bryan May's Queen hit musical *We will rock you*, and Anthem from *Chess*.

The Gleemen, with bass soloist Michael Reglin, sang 'Somewhere my Love'.

MP for Ogmores, Huw Irranca-Davies, spoke on the achievements of the League of Friends which had been formed to raise money to help Maesteg Hospital 50 years ago. In that time, it has donated £300,000 to the hospital for the benefit of staff and patients.

The Gleemen ended a wonderful concert with 'Tydi a Roddaist', followed by the audience standing to sing the Welsh National Anthem.

Condolences
I WOULD like to extend sympathy to the family on the recent passing of **Coun Christopher Michaelides**, one of the longest serving councillors on Bridgend CBC who had served the community of Betws for 25 years.

In the last year, he had been the Mayor of the council, and his last official engagement was at the Mayor's charity dinner at which he thanked everyone for their donations in supporting his chosen charities of GLAZE the prostate charity, the Stroke Association and Bridgend County Riding for the disabled.

School sports
OGMORE Vale pri-



Lauren Coates, chorister.

mary school, sports day will be on **Thursday, July 5 on the sports field (weather permitting) for pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 (years 1-6).**

The format has been changed and the school will organise a range of events, including sprint, hurdles, distance run, relays, javelin, discus and shot putt in its own '2012 Olympics'.

Events: 10am – Opening Ceremony; 10.15am–11.30am – Key Stage 2 heats; 11.30am–1pm – Key Stage 1 races and presentation to winning team;

1.30pm–2.30pm – Key Stage 2 finals and presentation to winning team.

Football training
WYNDHAM Boys and Girls Club has football training for the under-8s and 11s each **Thursday (6pm-7pm) weather permitting at the Planka.**

The club is holding a parents evening on July 2 to which everyone is welcome. At present there is no football team for the under-12s because of lack of players.

Pen-y-Fai WI report
PRESIDENT Jean Griffiths opened the recent meeting of Pen-y-Fai WI, and gave birthday greetings to members who had celebrated in the last month.



Sebastian Waters, solo part.

Members were asked to put their names forward for WI Federation events.

These include a quiz night in the Hi Tide, Porthcawl on September 20.

The WI will be hosts at the next Link gathering and members were asked to submit ideas for events in the suggestion box.

Jean then introduced the speaker Lorna Davies, a nurse from the Sandville Self Help Centre.

Lorna described healing and beneficial effects of reflexology, head massage and the centre's motto of 'laughter and humour kills the tumour'.

She had brought a display of crystals and described their various benefits.

Sue Davies gave a vote of thanks, and reminded members of the day trip on July 23 to Dewstone gardens in Monmouthshire, which had been created by Mr H R K Oakley, a director on the Great Western Railway at the end of the 19th century.

Members would also be going to Veddw House with its garden created over the last 20 years, by one of Britain's most influential gardeners, Anne Wareham, helped by Charles Hawes.

The next meeting on July 16 will be in the form of a street party.



MP Huw Irranca-Davies addresses the gathering.



John Thomas receives the cheque.

MEMORIES OF PORTHCAWL'S VERY OWN DAD'S ARMY...

Dr Jonathan Nicks is not entirely correct (The GEM, June 14) when he states that The Home Guard comprised local volunteers ineligible for military service owing to age.

I joined the 9th Battalion of the Monmouthshire Home Guard in early 1942, aged 17, prior to receiving call-up papers later that year following my 18th birthday.

I joined The Panteg and Griffithstown Company in the

Pontypool area.

The local drill hall, usually the base of the Panteg Battery, RA, was originally formed in 1860 as part of the first Monmouthshire Artillery Volunteer Corps.

The Battery, which had a distinguished history, was selected for service in the Boer War (1899-1902), when my grandfather was Regimental Bandmaster, followed by action during the 1914-18 War and Second World War, after landing on Arromanches Beach on June 27, 1944.

As a choirboy attending the parish church of

St Hilda's on Sunday September 3, 1939, I remember the vicar sending the packed congregation home after being handed a note that we were at war with Germany.

The officers and men of The Panteg battery were on church parade and quickly formed up outside the church, and were quickly marched to the drill hall.

Very soon, they were on operational duty, and would not return until after 1945.

Thus the Panteg and Griffithstown Company Home Guard inherited the vacant drill hall, with its excellent parade ground and facilities, including lock-up provision for artillery field guns.

My experience in the Home Guard was very much like the TV series 'Dad's Army'.

I remember the names of the officers. Major Jacobs, a grammar school master, was the CO; Lieut Arthur Vaughn, wearing the 1914-18 medals, was my class teacher in 1936.

The CSM was Frank Rennels, a local monumental mason.

He was a cross between Sgt Wilson and Godfrey in the TV series, always polite, addressing men as 'Private' due, no doubt, to his professional manner when dealing with the bereaved.

Finally, the Company Quartermaster Sgt was Llew Lewis, a well known milkman and family butcher.

I do recall one amusing incident which was so typical of 'Dad's Army'.

The company had been ordered to the nearby mountain, fol-

lowing reports that a German Luftwaffe aircraft had dropped a bomb.

In a neighbouring street I could see one of our chaps, Charlie Hawthorne, emerging from his house with rifle, bayonet, gas mask, ammunition pouches filled with live 303, ammunition, while his distraught wife clung to his arm, reluctant to see her Charlie going to war.

However, it had a happy ending as Charlie was back in two hours; a regular army Ordnance disposal unit had beaten us to it, and made the device safe.

Looking back 70 years since the bomb scare, I now realise what the bomber was up to.

Just a five-minute walk from the Drill Hall, and about a mile as the crow flies from the incident, was located the important steel works of Baldwin (Ltd) Panteg.

That must have been the target.

On November 5, 1942, I reported to the 14th Welsh Training battalion, at Heath Camp, Cardiff, on the site which is now University Hospital of Wales.

Along with hundreds of other recruits, we would be trained by instructors from all three of the former Welsh regiments; South Wales Borderers, Royal Welsh Fusiliers and the Welch Regiment.

I soon realised that the cosy world of The Home Guard was over, and worse, my liberty was gone for the duration of the war.

IDRIS BERRY
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MP backs Heart Rhythm Week



Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon is lending her support to Heart Rhythm Week 2012.

MADELEINE MOON, MP for Bridgend, has lent her support to Heart Rhythm Week 2012 by signing the Atrial Fibrillation pledge.

The event was organised by the Atrial Fibrillation Association (AFA) and Arrhythmia Alliance, to raise awareness of a condition affecting as many as 500,000 people in the UK and about 10 per

cent of those over 75.

She stated: 'AF is associated with a five-fold increase in stroke risk and costs the NHS £1.8 billion per year. It is important that we get on top of this problem and raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of AF.'

For more information visit: <http://www.aaaw.org.uk/heart-rhythm-checklist>, or: <http://www.atrialfibrillation.org.uk/>, or: <http://www.preventaf-strokecrisis.org/>.

ADAM DANCES TO HIS BIG BREAK!



ABOVE: Adam Taylor strikes a pose on the steps of the museum.

A YOUNG dancer from Bridgend has been named Vocational Qualification (VQ) Learner of the Year, an award held annually to mark VQ Day (June 20), and celebrate the achievements of those who have excelled in practical and work-related learning.

Adam Taylor (18), was commended for his enthusiasm and passion for dance, something which has already won him a number of accolades, both at the national Eisteddfod and on Channel 5's *Don't Stop Believing* programme.

He has also been recognised with a £60,000 scholarship to a prestigious London dance school.

The budding dancer was presented with his award by former rugby star Jonathan Davies at a high-profile awards ceremony at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

Adam said: "I'm delighted to have won the award. It was a massive shock but I'm really pleased."

"I started dancing at the age of 12 and fell in love with it. A few people said they thought I had the talent to turn it in to a career, so I decided to go for it and enrolled at Bridgend

College.

"While I was there, my tutors suggested I apply for the Bird School of Performing Arts in London. There were more than 20,000 applicants, but I was one of the lucky ones awarded a scholarship and I am loving every minute."

"After I've finished training, I've set my sights on performing in the West End for a few years, but then I'd love to come back to Wales to set up my own dance school in Bridgend."

Adam also featured on TV through his membership of the TrueDynamix vocal dance group which reached the final of Channel 5's talent search programme, *Don't Stop Believing*.

VQ Day is held annually to celebrate the success of tens of thousands of people across Wales who successfully achieve vocational qualifications, in a wide variety of subjects such as carpentry, beauty therapy and childcare.

A Bridgend College spokesman said:

"Bridgend College was well represented on the shortlist, with engineer Scott Kihlberg (22) from Penarth, children's care and development worker, Sian Preddy (37) from Bridgend, who overcame profound deafness to achieve top marks in her foundation degree course. Both were in contention for the prestigious award."

RIGHT: Adam Taylor with Scott Kihlberg and Sian Preddy at the awards ceremony in the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff.



Bus access for mobility scooters move welcomed

THE BRIDGEND MP, Madeleine Moon, has welcomed a new code of conduct for the carriage of mobility scooters on low floor buses.

The lack of legislation in this area has created somewhat of a grey area for those wishing to use public transport.

The scheme aims to introduce a permit for mobility scooters, based on whether they are appropriate to be carried on a bus.

They will have to be a class two model and will have to satisfy various conditions, including total weight, turning circle and total size.

Those who wish to obtain a permit will also have to demonstrate their ability to safely use

their vehicle on a bus.

The MP commented: "Access to public transport for disabled people is often difficult, making even the most simple of journeys expensive and complicated."

"At a recent conference I attended, organised by the Bridgend Coalition for Disabled People, the expense of taxis, the difficulty of getting around, and the hostility many disabled people faced from bus drivers and passengers were the main causes of concern."

"This is a welcome move by bus companies, and I hope this is a first step towards making public transport accessible to everyone."

"Deciding on a whim to go to the shops, meet friends, getting to work or to an important medical appointment is something most

able-bodied people give very little thought to."

"For disabled people, this represents a daily, frustrating and often expensive challenge. While Article 9 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requires member states to ensure to persons with disabilities access, on an equal basis with others, to transportation, we are some distance from achieving integrated transport system that works for everyone."

For more information, call the first traveline on 08712002233 or visit www.traveline.info. To obtain 'permit for travel' contact First South West and Wales, Natasha Tagholm, Enterprise House, Eastern road, Bristol, BS5 0DZ or call 0117 3736671.



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VALEPLUS' 10th 'BIRTHDAY'



THIS picture was taken at the recent garden party marking the 10th anniversary of ValePlus in Barry.

The charity provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning disability, and was set up in 2002 by two teachers Melanie Carter and Steve Thomas.

News in and out of class at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg



YSGOL Gyfun Bro Morgannwg pupils have been taking part in the annual 'Scientific Mathematical Competition' set by Bangor University.

The competition is open to year-8 pupils and every year there are over 1000 participants from across Wales.

Every participant receives a certificate and prizes are awarded to those who are judged to have reached the highest standard. With the cooperation of Urdd Gobaith Cymru, the prizes are awarded annually at the Urdd National Eisteddfod.

Very few pupils reach the pinnacle – some seven or eight throughout Wales – and so the fact that three pupils from

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, in care of their teacher Mr Ithel Davies, have succeeded to reach such heights deserves recognition.

Many congratulations to the following pupils on their success: Aled George, Rhodri Davies and Brendan Scott.

IT was a pleasure to welcome Tom Blumberg, one of Bro Morgannwg's first pupils, back to school recently.

Having graduated from Mountview in London, Tom is now acting on Rownd a Rownd on S4C. It was a memorable experience for years 7, 8 and 9 to hear more about his budding career as an actor, his early years in Bro Morgannwg and the importance of the Welsh language to him.



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Charity welcomes commissioner

AGE CONCERN Senior Health Shop was delighted recently that Sarah Kochia, newly-appointed commissioner for older people spent her first morning at the shop in Holton Road, Barry.

The shop is run by older volunteers for other older people and the community. She remarked: "It's an inspiration to us all. What comes across so strongly was just how much energy and drive older people have, and

how the support, advice and friendship provided by people at the centre is for some a lifeline."

During the course of the morning, she joined in a class, remarking on the friendliness of the group.

The visit also made the lunchtime and evening news highlighting her visit.

She said she would visit the centre again in six months to report what had been attained, and thanked the volunteers for all their hard work and dedication. GF

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Tribute to motorcyclist who died in road crash



Darren Hancox.

SOUTH Wales Police have named the man who died following a road traffic collision on the Ewenny road, on June 20, as Darren Hancox.

He was aged 38, and was from Llanedeyrn in Cardiff.

His parents, Garry

and Tegwen, paid tribute to him, saying: "Darren was a much-loved son and brother to Amanda, brother-in-law to Matthew, uncle to Cerys and Cameron, and close to family friend Sian."

"He was an experienced motorcycle rider and was always working on his bike to keep it in perfect condition."

"Motorcycling was his great passion."

"He worshipped his niece and nephew and was dedicated to his family. He lived life to the full and was always calm, smiling and happy."

"We are all devastated and heartbroken and will cherish all the great times and wonderful memories Darren gave us."

He had been a taxi driver in Cardiff for the past four years.

A police spokesman

said: "The collision happened when Mr Hancox was riding his Honda 600cc motorcycle towards St Brides Major on the B4265 road from Ewenny, when it collided with a white Ford transit van that was travelling in the opposite direction."

Police are appealing for anyone who witnessed the collision, or saw the manner in which the vehicles were being driven prior to the collision.

Officers are also particularly keen to speak to two pedal cyclists who provided assistance at the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Roads Policing Unit on 01656 869332, or 101, or Crimestoppers free on 0800 555 111.

Airport task force group's first meeting

A NEW high-powered body, set up to consider the future of Cardiff Airport, met for the first time yesterday.

It met in the aftermath of recent strong criticisms voiced by Carwyn Jones AM, the First Minister.

Passenger numbers have declined in recent years, while in contrast, its nearest rival, Bristol Airport, has seen passenger numbers rise significantly.

Mr Jones has forced the pace on discussions, once telling a debate in the Senedd that he would not bring visitors into Wales through the airport because it gave a

poor impression.

He has also called on the airport's Spanish owners, Abertis, to either invest in it, or sell it to someone who will.

The First Minister chaired the first meeting of the Cardiff Airport Task Force yesterday (Wednesday).

The special group, set up by the First Minister, included representatives from Cardiff Airport, St Athan Enterprise Zone, British Airways Maintenance, CBI Wales, the South Wales Chamber of Commerce, trade unions, the Vale Council and the Welsh Local Government Association.

Llanmaes Festival

LLANMAES FESTIVAL, in partnership with the Blacksmith's Arms beer festival, will be held on Saturday June 30, on the village green between 1pm and 5pm.

There will be a whole host of attractions, including traditional games such as splat the rat, hook-a-duck, stocks, skittles, individual stalls, and dog show and agility course. This year will also see the Aberthyn Tractor Boys. Admission free.

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Bridgend man recognised for his voluntary work...

helping to change the lives of deaf and hard-of-hearing people



ABOVE: Lynne Sheehy, corporate responsibility manager at Legal and General; volunteers Matthew Skinner, John Claridge, Ken Morris, Joan Fisher, Tom Dawes and Paul Williamson, with Richard Williams, director of Action on Hearing Loss Cymru.

THE immense contribution of a Bridgend volunteer was recognised recently, at Action on Hearing Loss Cymru's annual volunteer awards ceremony in Cardiff.

Local family offer Bridgend hospital triple (volunteer) help!



ABOVE (left to right): Nicola Gash, Vilma Brown and Libby Gash.

THREE generations of one family are helping at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, by giving up their time to do voluntary work there.

Vilma Brown began volunteering on the reception desk seven years ago. Seeing how much she enjoyed it, her daughter, Nicola Gash, and grand-daughter, Libby Gash, joined the teams on the Stroke Ward and Clinical Decision Unit.

Vilma, aged 73 and from Bridgend, said: "I began volunteering because I wanted to help patients. I realise how difficult and stressful it can be for people attending appointments or visiting loved ones in hospital.

"I really enjoy the role, welcoming people and providing them with a friendly face when they first arrive."

Libby, who is 17 and also from Bridgend, added: "For some time now, I've wanted to pursue a career in medicine.

"Working as a volunteer has given me the experience and confidence to approach and help people.

"I couldn't have asked to work in a friendlier department. The patients and staff have been so welcoming.

"I would strongly encourage others to become a volunteer. It is one of the most rewarding experiences, knowing you've helped make a patient feel more comfortable in their time of need."

Paul Jones, the head of patient experience, said: "It is wonderful to have three generations of one family volunteering at the Princess of Wales Hospital.

"These three ladies are a great example of the commitment we see from people in our community who want to support others."

For information on volunteering at the hospital, contact 01656 753781, or e-mail volunteer@wales.nhs.uk.

John Claridge was among six individual Action on Hearing Loss Cymru volunteers, and a further team of 29 volunteers, who were presented with awards to mark their tireless commitment in contributing to the charity's volunteering project work, providing advice, help and support to people in Wales who are deaf or hard of hearing.

John was presented with the 'Champion of the Cause' award. A volunteer for the past seven months, and a hearing aid wearer himself, John has been instrumental in carrying out important research into the accessibility of service providers across Wales, including post offices.

Speaking at the awards ceremony, which took place at the Cardiff City Stadium, Action on Hearing Loss Cymru director, Richard Williams, said: "We're delighted to recognise the tremendous impact that volunteers like John bring in, providing essential support to deaf and hard of hearing people."

Air ambulance attends incident on Kenfig Beach

The Wales Air Ambulance received a call-out to Kenfig beach on Saturday, June 23, to attend an incident involving a motorbike.

The air ambulance arrived on the scene at 4.40pm and began to treat a 40-year-old man who had sustained a leg injury after falling off his motorbike.

The crew worked together with the Porthcawl Coastguard to help get the patient quickly into the aircraft due to the rising tide.

WI's sombre talk

THE June meeting of Laleston WI began with a visit by Mr V Head, who spoke about the 2011 earthquake in New Zealand - his subject being 'Christchurch and the aftermath'.

His report and slides of the devastation were harrowing, and it is obvious that there is a great deal of work to be done.

Members had attended the first meeting of the newly renamed Jubilee Link, which was hosted by Mynydd Cynffig WI. The first

He was then taken to Morriston Hospital in Swansea, leaving the scene at 5pm, and landing at the hospital at 5.10pm.

Jason Williams, operations manager, said: "Wales Air Ambulance is able to land close to patients in remote locations such as beaches to allow for quick treatment and transfer to the best hospital for their injuries.

"We were able to complete this mission within the golden hour, and I'd like to thank the Porthcawl Coastguard, who were fantastic with us on scene."

part of the evening was a showing of slides of past royal wedding groups and after a lovely tea, entertainment was provided by a mixed choir.

The Jubilee Link comprises Mynydd Cynffig, Laleston, Aberkenfig and Pen-y-fai, who were attending for the first time since joining the group.

The monthly reading group met at Pyle Library and the luncheon group visited Pantrhyn Farm for the first time.

The next monthly meeting will be on July 5, the last before the summer break. JR

A POPULAR CHOICE

PARK CRESCENT, BARRY...

Customer service key for family businesses

THE Park Crescent and Romilly area is at the heart of Barry's West End, with businesses providing niche services for the town's community.

Here the emphasis is on family concerns giving that extra individual attention to customers - something national chains can find difficult to deliver.

Meryl Hopkin, of Room Designs, is celebrating the second anniversary of her interior design business, which in the last two years has gone from strength to strength.

Meryl explained: "We get lots of recommendations from people who have been so pleased with our service that they have told their friends about us.

"People appreciate the fact that we offer free consultations and advice before they make the decision on what they want to do."

Room Designs prides itself on its friendly, helpful staff.

Meryl added: "To celebrate our second anniversary, we are running a special offer throughout the whole of July.

"If anybody brings in our advertisement from The GEM they will get 10 per cent off the 'Prestigious Fabrics and Wallpaper' range."

For animal lovers, Care4Pets is a godsend. Alison Moya has been providing services for pet lovers for 12 years.

"We started with an agency providing 'home boarding' for dogs so that they didn't have to go to kennels, which can be stressful. They go to the carer's home.

"We also provided dog walking, house visiting for smaller animals, or homes with multiple pets - everyone is CRB checked."

Now, Alison and her fully-trained members of staff offer dog grooming at their salon in Park Crescent.

"We have six groomers in all and operate six days a week from Monday to Saturday.

"We can do all breeds and sizes of dogs, and

poodles are a speciality.

"An average price for a groom would be £25."

The salon also supplies lots of 'doggy' and animal accessories such as beds, coats, collars and the like.

Alison is also happy to give people advice, particularly in the early days with puppies when people are unsure about how to deal with a particular issue.

Florantina Florists, which is owned by the Kellaway family, adds that splash of colour to Park Crescent.

John explained: "The shop was started by my mother and father, Jan and Den, 22 years ago.

"We're a Barry family and provide bouquets for anniversaries and birthdays, and specialise in funeral tributes."

The shop is a kaleidoscope of colour, exuding the perfume of hundreds of flowers.

Two hundred yards further down Park Crescent, straight across the mini roundabout, and onto St Nicholas Road, is The Grapevine, a store for wine - it has its own customer car park.

The Grapevine provides a great selection of wines from around the world at prices that more than compete with national supermarkets.

Added to that, Alan Petersen and the staff will offer expert opinions on what wine will be the best to lighten the mood of an evening or complement a meal with friends.

The staff are qualified in the General Wine Certificate of Knowledge too.

There's a huge choice of chilled wines, beers and cider - but a lot

more besides.

Alan explained: "We now have an additional general convenience section which means people can pick up things like bread and milk, and we have a 'deli' selection too with cold meats, cheeses, bacon, sausages, hams and eggs.

"We have recently made a couple more additions to our drinks range - Fentimans soft drinks and San Pellegrino soft drinks."

The Grape Vine is open every day from 9.30am to 10pm except on Sundays, when it opens at 10am and runs 'til 10pm.

Other businesses also provide valued services throughout the daytime and evenings.

The Park public house enjoys a steady stream of customers who enjoy having a drink while they watch the afternoon racing, or evening cricket or football on TV.

Harvey's Fish and Chips on Vale Street helps out busy families who want to spare themselves the chore of cooking at lunchtime or the end of the day.

It trades across lunch hours and from 5pm to 10pm daily, apart from on Sundays.

The march of supermarket chains means that small and medium sized retailers need the support of the community more than ever.

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ABOVE: Alan Petersen, the manager of The Grapevine, with the deputy manager, Doreen Oakley.



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Barry Scouts & Guides 2012 Annual Fete

Saturday 7th July 2012, Romilly Park Barry - Gates Open 12pm



Scouts and Guides head for Romilly Park, and their biggest day of the year!

EXCITEMENT is building in the Vale – as we are just days away from the 59th Barry Scout and Guide Fete, which will take place at

Romilly Park on Saturday, July 7 with the official opening at 1.15pm.

Cathie Steele, the chairman of the fete committee, told The GEM: "Our local Scout and Guide groups are totally self-funding organisa-

tions with no Government financial support.

"It costs more than £120,000 per annum to run these local groups, all of which has to be raised by our supporters – and the Barry Scout and Guide Fete is an important part of this ongoing task.

"This year's fete will feature Gerard Naprous and the Devil's Horsemen, as well as the usual Scout and Guide Arena event."

Gerard Naprous is a stunt co-ordinator whose film credits include working on *War Horse* with Steven Spielberg.

Entry to the fete is by programme, costing £2, which includes a free lucky prize draw for great prizes.

Cathie explained: "Programmes are now on sale so we'd ask people to contact their nearest group; alternatively, you can purchase a programme at the gate on the day."

"The fete committee would like to thank all of our sponsors,

patrons and helpers. We give particular thanks, though, to our Scout and Guide leaders, for giving the children and young people of Barry and District a wonderful life-changing opportunity."

The first ever Scout fete was held at Romilly Park in 1933, when it was called Kynspaumi. After a break during the years of the Second World War, the annual fetes were resurrected.

In 1985, the Scouts invited the Guides to take part, too – since when it has gone from strength to strength.

Barry Scouts & Guides 2012 Annual Fete

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Barry Scouts and Guides 2012

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Eric Hacker, is pleased to support the Barry Scouts and Guides 2012 fete and wishes them a successful event



Sgowtiaid a Geidiau'r Barri 2012

Mae Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cynghorydd Eric Hacker, yn falch o gael cefnogi Gwyl Sgwtiaid a Geidiau'r Barri 2012 ac yn dymuno pob llwyddiant iddi.



THE MAYOR OF BARRY COUNCILLOR LES SWORD

Wishes the Barry Scouts and Guides a Successful Fete

Young harpist Georgia (23) brings her own brand of folk to Cowbridge



ABOVE: Diners enjoying the music.
(PHOTOGRAPHS BY MIKE WILCOCK).

THE Cowbridge restaurant Arboreal recently hosted its first live music event – the first of a series of four.

Harpist Georgia Ruth Williams was the performer, and a spokeswoman for the restaurant said that her music had been "mesmerising and completely captivating".

Georgia has performed her compelling hybrid of folk and blues at Glastonbury, the Greenman Festival and at HMV's Next Big Thing Festival.

In the last year, her songs have been played on BBC Radio 1 (Huw Stephens), the 6Music Breakfast Show, Tom Robinson, and BBC Radio Wales.

Georgia, aged 23, has recorded an EP (released by Gwymon on 10" vinyl) which features vibraphones, pianos and organs combining with the harp to create a slow-burning warmth.



ABOVE:
Harpist Georgia
Ruth Williams.

Children's author at Cowbridge Library



Author Eurgain Haf shows her work to year-4 and 5 pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg.

YEAR-4 and 5 pupils from Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg enjoyed a trip to Cowbridge Library recently to meet Welsh children's author Eurgain Haf, who has written several books for children, including *Stablaau Seren* and *Siencyn a Dan Draed*. MW

Royal stamp of approval!



Evan Pryce (year 6) at Y Bont Faen.

CHILDREN from local primary schools helped set the scene for staff and learners at Palmerston Adult and Community Learning centre when they hosted a tea party to celebrate the Jubilee.

Learners and staff enjoyed music from the fifties and an old-fashioned tea of home made cakes.

Schools were invited to enter a competition to design a royal stamp. More than 350 entries poured into the centre.

"We were overwhelmed by the number of entries we have received" said Adult Learning Manager Debbie Lewis. "The designs have filled the walls from floor to ceiling! We have queens, castles and corgis in their hundreds. It has

given us a wonderful display for the Jubilee Celebrations and for our adult learners to enjoy!"

Winning designs were selected from each school and each received a Royal Jubilee Goody Bag.

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Cadoxton Primary.

Courtney - Infants of

Palmerston Primary.

Jayden - Reception of

St Helens Infants School.

Cori - Year 6 of All

Saints Church in Wales.

Jenna - Year 4 of

Holton Primary.

Arron - Year 4 of Sully

Primary.

Imogen - Year 6 of

Llangan Primary.

Evan - Year 6 of Y

Bont Faen.

Palmerston centre

thanked schools for taking

part and learners and

staff for their contribu-

tions to the royal tea

party, which raised funds

for breast cancer

research.

Vale MP drops in on Older People's Strategy Forum event



Vale MP Alun Cairns, chairman Mike Edwards, vice chairperson Lynda Wallis and Jane Weldon, chairperson of Age Discrimination.

VALE MP Alun Cairns called in to meet the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum team as they held an awareness event at the Central Library in Barry last week.

The forum held the day-long information and elder abuse awareness event to ensure that as many people as possible could find out about the forum and the services it provides.

The Vale MP was welcomed by chairman Mike Edwards, vice-chairperson Lynda Wallis and Jane Weldon, chairperson of Age Discrimination.

With a host of information stalls within the library, visitors to the

event were able to find out useful information regarding housing, the benefits available for the elderly, volunteering opportunities, the handyman service and how to recognise elder abuse.

Mr Cairns said: "It was great to meet the team at the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum event."

"The Forum provides a vital service for the older generation right across the Vale, and this event was a great way to let people know about the benefits and support available."

To find out more about the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum, visit: www.valeopf.org.uk.

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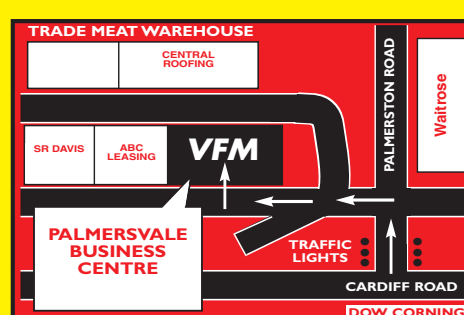
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Generation X art opened at Porthkerry



Deputy Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Councillor Janice Birch and the chair of the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum, Mike Edwards (right) and the young people and artists with one of the sculptures.

GENERATION X, a collection of wooden sculpture produced as part of an intergenerational art project, has been unveiled in Porthkerry Park.

The Generation X project was funded by the Arts Council for Wales and brought together the Vale of Glamorgan's Older People's Strategy Forum and young people from the area to share their memories and views of life in the Vale.

Artists Laura Gower and Kate Murphy then designed six pieces of work for the project.

During the week of February half term, participants worked together to create the sculptures in Palmerston Community Learning Centre.

Now completed, the collection has been moved to Porthkerry Park, as part of the Woodland Trail, where it will remain for local residents and visitors to enjoy.

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92 VOLKSWAGEN Golf Clipper Convertible. MoT, tax, white, electric roof **£1,995**

03 FORD KA 56,000 miles, long tax & MoT **£1,695**

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THIS ROCK OF AGES SINKS LIKE A STONE!

THE cinematic musical underwent something of a transformation with the advent of *Moulin Rouge*!

Gone were the slavish adaptations of stage musicals like *Guys and Dolls* and *South Pacific*, as Baz Luhrmann and co created a musical for the 21st century.

Since then the likes of *Chicago* (traditional) and *Mamma Mia!* (non traditional) have benefited from the resurgence in the genre, claiming awards and plenty of box office.

The latest stage musical to reach the big screen is *Rock of Ages*, which follows Drew and Sherrie (Diego Boneta and Julianne Hough), small town kids who find themselves caught up in 1987 Los Angeles with rock at its zenith, at a venue run by Dennis (Alec Baldwin) and Lonnie (Russell Brand).

School's concert

YSGOL Sant Curig is holding a gala concert in the Memorial Hall Barry on Monday, July 9, at 7pm. Tickets are available from the hall's box office on 01446 501365.

course of true love run smoothly for the pair, or will the likes of rock star Stacey Jaxx (Tom Cruise) and slimy manager Paul Gill (Paul Giamatti) get in the way...?

With an all-star cast, a superb soundtrack and based on one of the better stage musicals currently showing, the stage was set for *Rock of Ages* to deliver the goods and send the audience home headbanging.

Sadly, the only banging your head will be doing will be against the nearest wall as you wonder why you just sat through such an inane film, and why such talented actors have found themselves embroiled in it.

The stage show is one of the best I've seen in terms of its desire to bring entertainment to the masses, and while the story is simplistic enough, its sense of fun and playfulness mark it out. While the big screen incarnation makes several narrative changes (arguably for the better), it is severely lacking in its devotion to all things 'rawk'.

The problem lies with Adam Shankman, whose remake of *Hairspray* was a enjoyable enough, if overly saccharine, effort. Unfortunately, those sentiments are brought far more to the fore here, the film lacking in the scuzz and grime of the scene at this time period and instead

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

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handing out life lessons and *Glee*-style joy and delight.

While the stage show gets the balance just right, and tells its story with its tongue in cheek, here the script plays like American Idol's rock week, like *High School Musical* having a midlife crisis, and is all the poorer for it.

Shankman's direction is well-judged, giving the film a sense of scale and choreographing the 'tunes' with a degree of style, but in making it too glossy he sucks all

of the fun out of it, playing it a little too straight, while the multiple narratives are ill-served by the director, the characters feeling shallow and giving you nothing to really cling onto.

The cast don't exactly help the situation, with leads Diego Boneta and Julianne Hough feeling about as rock 'n' roll as Jedward, and coming across like TV talent show winners who fancied a career change.

Their acting is poor and their singing more at home with Mr Cowell and company, the pair no doubt picked for their looks rather than talent.

The theme of performers miscast runs throughout the cast, with Tom Cruise bringing a great deal of fun and humour to the role of washed-up rock Stacey Jaxx, but looking too old for the role; while Russell Brand brings his usual comedy charm but saddles himself with an accent that appears to have covered more of the British Isles than the Olympic torch.

Paul Giamatti is, as always, good value as the oily svengali, but Alec Baldwin looks like a man about to face a firing squad, obviously uncomfortable with the singing aspect and his performance, as you would imagine, suffers because of it.

The saving grace, really, is the soundtrack, with every conceivable 80s rock anthem on

show - and let's face it, if you can't savour a bit of 'Wanted Dead or Alive', 'Don't Stop Believin'' or 'We Built This City On Rock 'n' Roll' then you're no friend of mine.

It's just a shame the rest of the film isn't up to this standard; as it is, this *Rock of Ages* just sinks.

VERDICT: A poor attempt at bringing a brilliant stage show to the screen, *Rock of Ages* just doesn't cut the mustard. This is the sort of film that will appeal to people buying Ramones t-shirts, never having heard one of their records. It's a rock-free journey with a story that just doesn't engage; save your money and go and see the stage show. Avoid.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Mamma Mia!* (2008), *Moulin Rouge!* (2001)

Vale ramblers explore the Ogmore Valley

AFTER meeting centrally at Cowbridge Town Hall car park, the Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers made their way to Cwm Ogwr - Ogmore Valley, arriving at the start point on an industrial estate in the village of Blackmill.

The group made their way through the village towards Dimbath Lane, following this for a short stretch, before entering the forest and walking up Cwm Dimbath.

This path was very wet and muddy after all the rain recently, and the river was full and was flowing rapidly.

After having coffee, we made our way out of the valley, passing quite a few waterfalls on the way, as the water made its way down to join Nant Lechyd.

Crossing the common at the top of the valley, there were signs of work being carried out in the building of a wind farm.

We then entered the forest at the other side of the valley. Climbing over stiles, having to limbo under fallen trees, and paddling in some places along the path, this certainly made the walk interesting.

After leaving the forest, we came to a clearing and the views across the valley to Glynogwr were worth the effort. In the distance, we were

able to see the wind farm which is above Llantrisant.

After lunch the weather closed in, and as we continued on our way, enjoying the views across the valley to Lewistown, it became obvious that we had walked past the path that we were meant to take. Backtracking, we found the correct path, and followed it back to Blackmill.

For more information, visit: valeofglam-organramblers.co.uk

Gwenda Fitzpatrick

Works opens up to public

TO celebrate 100 years at Aberthaw, Lafarge Cement UK is holding a public open day on Saturday, July 21 from 10am to 3pm.

Manager James Kirkpatrick said: "We are very keen to share our centenary celebrations with as many local people as possible. Aberthaw Works has played a very important part in the local economy and communities of the Vale of Glamorgan for a long time.

"It is important to us that we mark this milestone by opening up our doors for people to come on site and find out more about our operation in the 21st century.

"The open day will include tours of the

works and quarry, an exhibition giving an interesting overview of the 100-year history of the site, and displays from other local companies and organisations.

Rock 'n' Roll PENARTH Holiday Week Rock 'n' Roll Dance comes to the Paget Rooms again with Owen Money on Friday, July 13 from 8pm until 11pm.

Tickets are £12 in advance from the Windsor Bookshop, Penarth, or telephone Paul Barrett on 02920 704279.

There will be 50s clothes stalls, as well as a raffle, in aid of the Marie Curie hospice.

Vale MP praises agricultural valuers at AGM

LOCAL MP Alun Cairns recently addressed members of the South Wales & Monmouthshire Association of Agricultural Valuers following their AGM in Miskin.

Hilary Evans, who works for Watts & Morgan in the Vale, was

concluding her year as chairman of the branch.

Mr Cairns said: "The valuers work hard to maintain close contact with organisations representing rural interests, and they help provide input on many issues raised for the countryside in these rapidly changing times."

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA

Boot sale

THERE will be an indoor boot sale on Saturday, June 30 at St Athan Community College Centre. Sellers 12pm-4pm, public 1pm-4pm. Tables £4. Contact 01446 730100 or 01446 754179.

Councillors' surgery

DYFAN Labour councillors Claire Curtis and Anthony Powell will be holding a drop-in advice surgery for residents of Dyfan ward this Saturday, June 30 at the Hightlight Community

Centre, from 11am to 12 noon. No appointment needed.

School fayre

YSGOL Cymraeg Sant Curig (PTFA) holds a summer fayre on July 5 at 3.30pm in the school grounds, College Road, Barry.

Meet and greet with S4C's Sali Mali and Sam Tan; stalls; fun and games. Entrance, adults 50p; children 25p.

Charity quiz

THERE will be a charity quiz night at the Swan Inn, Nottage, on

Sundays at 5.30pm and all proceeds go to Ty Hafan children's hospice.

It will be followed by 'Rock 'n' Roll Bingo' to round off an evening of fun.

Cowbridge choral concert

ON Friday, July 6 at 7.30pm, Cowbridge Choral Society will present a concert at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, which includes modern music, music from the musicals, as well as some classical pieces.

The concert will also feature harp solos and piano solos from some of the young musicians at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Tickets cost £8 and are available from Davies Newsagents in Cowbridge and choir members.

Annual meeting

THE annual general meeting of the St Nicholas (Barry) Community Association will be held on Friday, July 6 at the St Nicholas Hall, Barry, at 7pm.

Eisteddfod fundraiser

A TASTE of Wales dinner will be held at the West House Country Hotel, Llantwit Major, on Saturday July 7 at 7.30pm, where a delicious six-course menu, using locally sourced foods, will be available.

Price: £40 per person, to include welcome drink of Patagonian wine.

Tickets from 01446 796147, or: eng@west-house-hotel.co.uk.

Rugby 7s

SOUTH Wales Police RFC present the Colin Hillman Invitation Sevens on Sunday, August 26 from 11.30am-6.30pm at Waterton Cross,

Bridgend.

Admission £4, OAP £1, under-16s admitted free.

Vale Photographic Club

THE Vale Photographic Club (VPC) had a great season with our full and diverse programme ensuring there was something for everyone.

VPC meet on Fridays at the Village Hall in Ystradowen from 7.15pm, and our new programme commences on September 7.

Visit: vale-photographic-club.co.uk/ and click on the link 'Friday Night Summer Evening Programme' for further details. New members, both young and old, amateur and professional, always welcome.

Wellies and waterproofs at the ready, for carnival and dance!

WE would like to thank everyone for putting their wellies and water-proofs on and joining in the spirit of carnival day, which showed St Brides Major's community spirit.

The day began with an amazing amount of floats that met up with the carnival queen, attendants and page boys' float at Ogmoresby-Sea, where they battled against the high winds and heavy down-pour.

Thank you goes to the farmers who lent us their tractors, trailers and also drove them.

People participating in the float procession ranged from retired residents to the very young.

We travelled through Ogmoresby, Southerndown and finally into St Brides Major. It was encouraging to see people standing on the pavements waving and cheering.

At St Brides village, in fancy dress, were playgroup children, with leaders Auntie Amanda and Auntie Yana carrying the banner.

They were joined by the New Foundland Association, and this was a stunning sight to behold, massive black furry dogs towing little carriages behind them – thank you to the handlers and to Beverley Lambert.

Behind them came two Shetland ponies with carriages and their riders, who gave the children rides when we arrived at the field.

There were the vintage tractors, Play Aloud, fairground attractions, Southerndown Life Savers, Coastguard, fire tender and barbecue.

Inside the marquee were the craft stalls,

information stands, food stalls, cream teas, licensed bar and seating area.

The afternoon entertainment, in the marquee due to the inclement weather, began with a dog display by Susie Lindsay of Southerndown, followed by the Atlantic College Choral Group and finally a very energetic Zumba dance display.

To round off the afternoon, a Tug 'o' War tournament was held in memory of Barry Jones (Big Barry) who had lived in the village all his life and was an all-round sportsman. The Barry Jones shield was won by the Farmers Arms, where coincidentally, Barry's father was chef for many years when it was first turned into a restaurant over 40 years ago.

The shield was presented by Barry's youngest sister, Sandra, to the winning team at the dance in the evening.

The lucky programme cash prize, donated by J & J Motors of Laleston, was won by Mr M Boulton. The winner of the dance ticket was Mr A Houston, who won a three-course Champagne dinner for four people, donated by Ros and Phil.

After the presentations, we danced the night away to local band Scarecrows and DJ Seymour.

Special thanks go to Christopher Davies (CPD) who gave the carnival committee (at no charge) the time prior, during and after the carnival, the use of his field, electricity and water. Last, but not least, a big thank you to all our loyal volunteers.

GLADYS MATTHEWS (for the carnival committee)

TV dancing couple's demo

TO celebrate Guide Dogs for the Blind's 80th anniversary, the Vale branch recently held a ball.

The highlight of the night was a dance demonstration by the most successful dancers on BBC's Strictly Come Dancing – Darren Bennett and Lilia Kopylova.

Darren and Lilia introduced themselves to people on each table, as they worked their way around the dance floor, giving everyone the opportunity to take photographs.

The couple later gave a flawless dance demonstration of a Samba, and after a quick dress change by Lilia, this was soon followed by a sensual Rumba.

Another dress change

and we were treated to an exhausting and upbeat Jive, followed shortly after by the American Smooth, danced to Memories, sung by Elaine Paige.

Darren and Lilia then gave everyone the opportunity to ask questions about Strictly Come Dancing, such as: "Why does Anton du Beke get all the older ladies to dance with?" and: "What criteria is used to team celebrities with professional dancers?"

A raffle then took place, with a lucky lady and gentleman winning the chance to dance with Darren and Lilia. The two winners were then given the chance to show their moves with a Cha Cha Cha! JC

Armed Forces Day displays

SPECTACULAR air and arena displays will be included in this Saturday's Armed Forces Day at Cooper's Field, Bute Park, Cardiff.

It will coincide with the 30th anniversary of the Falkland's conflict and is organised by the South Wales Armed Forces Day committee, supported by the Welsh Government, Cardiff Council, the Ministry of Defence and local organisations.

The day will feature performances by the Welsh Guards Band, local bands, and a special performance by Will Kevans, a UK-based singer-songwriter and Falklands veteran.

There will be a commemorative service, a Veterans' parade through Cardiff and military stands, which include an inflatable assault course and climbing wall, plus charity stands.

Special features throughout the day will be displays by the amazing RAF Falcons parachute display team and a fly-past over Cooper's Field by an RAF Dakota.

The event starts at 10am. Details at: www.armedforcesday-wales.co.uk.

Cats Protection open its doors to the public

CARDIFF Cats Protection is holding open days this weekend at Sunnyside Cattery, Wayside Cottage, Station Road East, Wenvoe.

They take place on Saturday, June 30 from 2pm-4pm, and Sunday, July 1 from 2pm-4pm.

There will be kittens and cats looking for good homes, all vaccinated, chipped, de-flea'd, wormed and neutered.

The event is held to highlight the work of Cardiff Cats

Protection.

Dawn, of Cardiff Cats Protection, feels it's: "not just about boarding cats, but helping cats with no homes who deserve a second chance."

"It's a local charity and not many people know about the work it does."

"Please come along if you are looking to adopt a cat or kitten for life."

For more information, telephone Fran on 07976 058708, or Dawn on 02920 594755.



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COWBRIDGE

Meet the people...

SUMMER Seasonal update



A WARM WELCOME...

ON behalf of Cowbridge town, may I extend a warm welcome to the National Eisteddfod, setting up as I speak on our very doorstep, and may I bid an even warmer welcome to all visitors throughout the coming year.

Since time immemorial, people have visited our wonderful rural market town. Granted a Royal Charter in 1254, we are proud and protective of our traditions and heritage.

Its old Roman road tells the story of how the Romans came and settled here before 400AD.

Visitors still come from far and wide and it is not uncommon for many to want to stay.

Cowbridge offers a warmth and a welcome few towns in the whole of the UK can boast.

Having been built up around the agricultural community that surrounds it, and nestled in a natural bowl of green hills, inside its 13th Century town walls, Cowbridge boasts The Bear Hotel, an historic Old Coaching Inn, and still a cen-



From Coun Nicola Thomas, the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian

tral focus for accommodation in the town – and just a short drive from the beautiful Glamorgan Heritage Coast.

Cowbridge still retains, to this day, a quaint, rural character with its working livestock market, its castle, the wonderful Holy Cross Church and the historic town hall.

Added to this we have modern Cowbridge, thriving, with a progressive Chamber of Trade. Its members, along with the town's people themselves and the local council, strive to ensure a wonderful community spirit that is shared with all who visit.

There is fashion week, and festivals celebrating books, food, music and jazz, and Christmas trees!

There is also the annual reindeer parade, all open to the public to come and share with us and enjoy.

Much merriment as can be found in our pubs, clubs, restaurants, bars, cafes, and coffee shops – you can also find a corner in its many parks, or the famous Physic Garden, to sit in peace and tranquility.

Cowbridge has opportunities for all types of sport and leisure facilities from yoga to rambling, from rugby to bowls, from bicycles to bridge, and many many more!

For a shopping experience second to none, Cowbridge offers so much. Designer shops to die for, bespoke boutiques, food stores of excellence, gift shops galore, chocolatiers, hardware, bicycle shops and furniture restorers, antiques to art galleries, stationers to off licences – you name it and Cowbridge, I am confident, will provide.

So may I welcome you all, from where ever you roam, Cowbridge is waiting to make you at home,

We will wine you and dine you and treat you with care,

So you'll return to your home and say:

"It's true – I was there!"

Cowbridge – a market town that moves forward while staying in touch with its past

by PHILIP IRWIN

COWBRIDGE is proud of being a small town – a small market town at that – and this leaves it treading a delicate line between preserving its charm and character, while at the same time evolving in the modern world.

After all, a town without active traders who bring new ideas and services to the area is just a museum piece, and everyone living or working in Cowbridge knows how important it is that the town should be economically active.

As a result, the town has evolved an 'unofficial' develop-

ment plan, putting together projects and events to strengthen its sense of community, and also creating high-profile festivals that are aimed at attracting visitors.

These activities, in turn, generate visitors, creating much-valued 'footfall' in the shops, and it all means that new traders are keen to come to the town.

A good example of this is Steve Bell, who recently opened 'Kookie's Kitchen' in the Happy Days market in Church Street.

He told The GEM: 'I have been working in the area for several years now, and have been on the lookout for a cafe in Cowbridge for ages.

'It was always my first choice and it has been fabulous so far. I get a mix of people coming in to eat.

'There are regulars who tell me that they keep on coming back, and first timers who say they will definitely be returning.

'There's also a great community spirit in the town.'

The recent Queen's Diamond Jubilee gave the town a chance to demonstrate that community side, with a well-attended lighting of a beacon on the downs above the town, followed by a street party on the next day, organised by a variety of local groups.

That street party was intended to be based in and around

the town's impressive Physic Garden, and in the Old Hall Gardens, revamped in the last 18 months by a dedicated group of volunteers.

However, Jubilee Tuesday was not a great day for outdoor activities, so it turned out to be a fine example of the community pulling together.

The Duke of Wellington pub made its banqueting hall available for the street party, and Holy Cross Church cleared space for the craft fair, and the day was saved!

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 23



Steve Bell from Kookies Kitchen.

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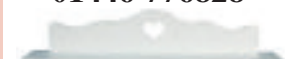
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COWBRIDGE

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SUMMER Seasonal update



Ian and Sarah John of OBI Camping.



Hwyl and Paula Jones with some of the PH71 Haircrew team.



Paul Jarvis of ChipsAway.



Nia James Jones and Sam Evans, your local FUV insurance brokers.



Cowbridge 'different from so many others'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22
Natalie Isaac is a prominent member of the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade, and also runs the Quarter Penny Cafe. She believes the importance of looking after visitors to the town cannot be overstated.

She told The GEM: "With the Eisteddfod in mind, the chamber of trade has made plans to help visitors see the best of Cowbridge."

"There will be a shuttle bus between the town and the maes in Llandow, and we have also arranged with Cowbridge Comprehensive School for their students to get involved."

"A number of them will be based in the town centre as 'meeters and greeters' and they will make sure that visitors are aware of the town's most interest-

ing features.

"It is beneficial for the students too, as the work will go towards an element of their Welsh Baccalaureate."

Another example of the town's community spirit was the successful Cowbridge Book Festival, again run by volunteers, and an event which has just announced that it raised £12,500 for children's charities.

Yet another event, now firmly established on the national calendar and again run almost entirely by volunteers, is the Cowbridge Festival of Food and Drink, which has proved to be a great success.

One obvious sign that the town can attract shoppers, visitors and new businesses is, of course, the arrival, scheduled for October, of Waitrose, who will be opening a food store in the centre of the town.

At a time when other supermarket chains are cutting back on openings - Tesco for instance - it shows just how in demand Cowbridge is.

It all comes back to the way that the town

has managed to make sure that visitors have an interesting day, whatever their requirements.

Recently, this reporter was introduced to a group of holidaymakers from the Midlands, staying in Porthcawl on a five-day break.

Wanting a change of scenery after a few days, they asked a local who advised them to hop on the X2 bus, saying that in 45 minutes they would be somewhere very different, with a

totally different character.

Needless to say, they came back singing the praises of Cowbridge!

Natalie Isaac was not surprised at their reaction.

She said: "There is so much that is of interest, from the main street to all the 'nooks and crannies'."

"I would really encourage people to support our independent traders."

"They make the town different from so many others."

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SUMMER Seasonal update



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Performing arts school celebrates awards success



ABOVE: Stagecoach students celebrate their awards success.

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performance skills and 'skills for life'.

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Stagecoach are enrolling now for summer workshops and autumn term classes.

For more information, visit:
www.stagecoach.co.uk/b
ridgend, or contact
Helene on 01446 781454.



Question:
Who could this biker (above) be?...The answer is local artist Sue McDonagh (right)



SUMMER CLEARANCE

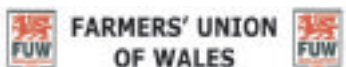
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COWBRIDGE

Meet the people...
SUMMER Seasonal update



LOCAL HAIR SALON STAFF SHOW OFF THEIR CREATIVE ARTWORK



Rachel Best and Amy Theophilus from Fun Foundations Nursery.



Anthony Taylor of Gaskell and Walker solicitors.



Craig Lamont, manager of Shoecare.

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ONE Cowbridge hair salon recently celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by getting creative and raising cash for charity!

Staff at The Hair Business put their hair products aside and took up their paint brushes to create a series of 'artworks'.

These were put on display around the salon and offered to customers (with a reserve price of £3).

The staff's creativity was rewarded, and keen bidding for some of the items pushed the total amount raised to more than £100.

A company spokeswoman said that the money would be donated to the children's charity, Plan International.

ABOVE: Staff at The Hair Business with their Jubilee works of art.

Home comforts



ABOVE: Nicola Punter and Richard Lang of Home Comforts

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Image shows typical Taylor Wimpey homes.

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Wimpey**

The GEM is proud to be an official partner of the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale of Glamorgan

Mae'r GEM yn falch o fod yn un o bartneriaid swyddogol Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg, 2012

Excitement as choir prepares to headline Eisteddfod

FRESH from their recent success with Only Boys Aloud on Britain's Got Talent, the members of Only Men Aloud are back at work mentoring and inspiring young children across the Vale, as they prepare for the National Eisteddfod.

'Only Vale Kids Aloud', the latest in the family of choirs, will perform for the first time at the opening concert.

Three members of the mentoring team talked about how the preparations are going. "We're really looking forward to this year's Eisteddfod," says Craig Yates. "I think when everyone's

singing together, it'll be something the Eisteddfod has never seen before - if we can fit everyone onto the stage!"

"Things are going well," adds Dan Phillips. "The rehearsals were positive and the kids have all started well."

So it bodes well for Only Vale Kids Aloud. With the support and encouragement of Only Men Aloud members, it's obvious that the children are involved in a project which will inspire and stay with them for years to come, just as the preparations for the opening concert at the Blaenau Gwent and Heads of the Valleys Eisteddfod inspired another group of young-

sters. Only Boys Aloud. Craig has special memories from that opening concert: "The reaction they had that night will live with me forever."

"Definitely," agrees David Mahoney. "It was an amazing reaction from the crowd, and from the teenage boys. We were all very proud of them."

And although Only Boys Aloud soon became household names across Wales, with a TV series following their progress, it took a certain ITV 1 series to bring them to the attention of the whole of the UK and beyond!

"I was able to be in Britain's Got Talent for each round and the boys were amazing," says

Dan. "It was great to be part of it with them and see how they grew throughout the competition."

"It was hard work," admits Craig. "But what the boys achieved was something very special indeed. And by sticking to their Welsh roots, they touched so many people around the world through what they did. Amazing."

The Vale of Glamorgan National Eisteddfod will be the third time Only Men Aloud have headlined at the National Eisteddfod, but does any one performance or concert stand out? All three answer almost simultaneously.

"The opening concert at Ebbw Vale. It was a magical moment when Only Boys Aloud joined us on stage," says David. Craig says: "It's got to be the concert in Ebbw Vale, where Only Boys Aloud performed for the first time. I'll never forget it."

So with less than two months to go, what can the boys tell us about their performance on the night - what can we expect at this year's opening concert?

"It'll be a night to celebrate Wales' reputation and heritage as the land of song with a rich array of song and variety of choral singing," says David.

"And it'll be a packed stage," adds Craig.

"We'll have only Men Aloud, Only Boys Aloud, the Principality Only Boys Aloud Academi and Only Vale Kids Aloud joining us on stage. It'll be quite a squeeze towards the end!"

Craig thinks the young members will benefit from their experiences, and they'll make some great friendships along the way.

"It'll broaden their horizons and help them to grow in ability and self-confidence," and with that, Craig and the others rejoin the schoolchildren busily preparing for the opening concert on the Pavilion stage at the old airfield in Llandow on Friday, August 3 at 8pm.

Some tickets are still available for the evening. Go online to or ring the ticketline on 0845 4090 800. The Vale of Glamorgan National Eisteddfod is held from 4-11 August. For more information go online.

Welsh phrase of the week / Ymadrodd yr wythnos: Dwi'n hoffi gwyltio tenis (Dween hoo-pee goo-ill-yeo teniss) which means 'I like watching tennis'.

Paratoadau ar gyfer Cyngerdd agoriadol yr Eisteddfod yn Codi Sîm.

MAE aelodau Only Men Aloud yn ôl wrth eu gwaith yn mentora ac ysbrydoli plant ardal Bro Morgannwg wrth iddyn nhw baratoi ar gyfer yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, yn dilyn eu llywyddiant diweddar gydag Only Boys Aloud ar raglen adloniant Britain's Got Talent.

Bydd Only Vale Kids Aloud, y diweddaraf yn y teulu o gorau, yn perfformio am y tro cyntaf yng nghyngerdd agoriadol yr Eisteddfod eleni. Noddir y cyngerdd gan Principality. Cymerodd dri aelod seibiant o'r gwaith hyfforddi i sôn am sut mae'r paratoadau'n dod yn eu blaenau ac i hel atgofion am eu profiadau Eisteddfodol dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf.

"Rydian ni'n edrych ymlaen," meddai Craig Yates. "Rwy'n meddwl y bydd o'n brofiad gwyb gwlod pawb yn canu gyda'i gilydd - os y gallwn ni ffitio pawb ar y llywyddiant."

"Mae'r plant yn edrych ymlaen yn eiddgar yn barod, ac yn awyddus iawn i rannu llywyddiant gydag Only Men Aloud. Er rwy'n siwr mai edrych ymlaen i weld Only Boys Aloud mae'r llawer iawn ohonyn nhw, go iawn!"

Felly mae'n argoeli'n dda ar gyfer Only Vale Kids Aloud, a chydychefnogaeth a chymorth aelodau Only Men Aloud, mae'n amlwg bod y plant yn rhan o brosiect a fydd yn eu hysbrydoli ac aros gyda hwy am flynyddoedd, yn union fel yr ysbrydolydd grwp arall o fechgyn ifanc gan y profiad o baratoi ar gyfer cyngerdd agoriadol yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Blaenau Gwent a'r Cymoedd ddwy flynedd yn ôl.

Cafodd côr Only Boys Aloud eu creu ar gyfer cyngerdd agoriadol yr Eisteddfod y flwyddyn honno, a thros y ddwy flynedd diwethaf mae'r côr o 160 o fechgyn o bob cwr o gymoedd y de wedi mynd o nerth i nerth.

Mae gan Craig atgofion melyn iawn o'r perfformiad cyntaf. "Roedd y cyngerdd yn iawn. Bydd yr ymateb a gafodd y bechgyn yn aros yn y cof am byth."

Dim ond tri mis ynghynt y crëwyd y côr bechgyn, ac roedd bod ar y llywyddiant gyda nhw, gweld mwynhad y gynulleidfa a'r huanhudderau a ddaeth yn sgil hynny'n ryweth bythgofiadwy.

"Yn bendant," meddai David Mahoney.

Ymateb gwefreiddiol gan y gynulleidfa, a 160 o fechgyn wedi cyffroi'r llwyr. Roeddell ni i gyd mor falch ohonyn nhw. Roedd yn hudol - pincel eni profiad Eisteddfodol ni. Noson i'w chofio a'i thrysori am byth."

Ac er bod Only Boys Aloud wedi dod yn enwau cyfarwydd iawn i ni yma yng Nghymru gyda chlyfres deledu arbennig yn dilyn eu llywyddiant a chyfleoedd i gefnogi Only Men Aloud mewn cyngherddau, bu ymddangosiad ar raglen adloniant ar ITV i ar draws Prydain yn ddigon i sicrhau bod y bechgyn yn denu sylw ym mhob cwr o'r DU a thu hwnt!

Ro'n i ym mhob rownd o raglen Britain's Got Talent, a roedd y bechgyn yn wych," meddai Dan. "Roedd yn brofiad gwyb gwlod gyda nhw a'u gweld yn datblygu fel grwp yn ystod y gystaduledd - ac yn ymddwyn mor aeddfed."

"Roedd yn bleser pur," ychwanegodd David. "Tipyn o daith i'r bechgyn - ond fe lwyddodd nhw i apelio at y beirniad - ac rwy'n siwr mai Only Boys Aloud y 'boyband' blaenaf Prydain erbyn hyn - neu'r un mwyaf o leiaf!"

"Roedd yn waith caled," meddai Craig. "Ond roedd yr hyn a gylfaenodd y bechgyn yn arbennig iawn iawn. A thrwy gadw i'w gwreiddiau fe gyfforddodd nhw a chymaint o bobl ym mhob cwr o'r byd. - profiad eithriadol."

Eisteddfod Bro Morgannwg fydd y trydydd tro i Only Men Aloud serennu ar llywyddiant ymmergwrdd. Mae Craig yn sôn am y budd y caiff y bobl ifanc o'r profiad hwn ar llywyddiant y Brifwyl eleni. "Fe fydd yn sicr o ehangu'r gorwelion nhw, ac yn eu helpu i ddatblygu'u doniau a'u huanhudderau."

A chydah hyn, mae Craig, Dan a David yn ail-ymuno gyda'r plant ysgol i ail-afael yn yr ymarfer i sicrhau bod y perfformiad ar llywyddiant ymmergwrdd yn hen faes awyr Llandow, nos Wener 3 Awst am 8pm, yn berthfaith.

Mae rhai tocynnau ar ôl ar gyfer y cyngerdd. Ewch i www.eisteddfod.org.uk neu ffoniwch 0845 4090 800 i'w prynu.

Cynhelir Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg o 4-11 Awst. Am ragor o wybodaeth ewch arlein.

2009.

Roeddian ni am berfformio 'Gwyr Harlech' am y tro cyntaf, ac roedd Tim yn awyddus i ni gael biniau a ffyn, a'n bod ninnau'n stampio ein traed a deffnyddio ffyn.

"Roeddian ni'n ymarfer am yn tro cyntaf a heb weithio popeth allan yn iawn, felly roedd clwstwr o finiau a ffyn ar y llywyddiant a ninnau'n canu wrth eu hymyl. Roedd popeth yn iawn tan ei fod yn amser mynd ar y bws."

"Doeddem ni methu â chael hyd i'r biniau yn unman. Ar ôl chwilio o amgylch y lle, fe gawsom ni hyd iddyn nhw, wedi'u lleoli o amgylch y Pafiliwn - a'r rhan fwyaf ohonyn nhw'n llawn papurau a phethau felly!"

Felly gyda llai na deudis i fynd cyn yr Eisteddfod eleni, beth y gallwn ei ddisgwyl yn y cyngerdd agoriadol yr Eisteddfod eleni," meddai David.

Mae Dan yn cytuno, gan ddweud, "Bydd rhywbeth ar gyfer pawb yn y cyngerdd eleni - caneuon newydd a hen ffefyrnau, felly gobethio y bydd pawb yn mwynhau'r huanin."

"Ac fe fydd y llywyddiant dan ei sang," ychwanegodd Craig. "Bydd Only Men Aloud, Only Boys Aloud, Academi Only Boys Aloud y Principality ac Only Vale Kids Aloud ar y llywyddiant. Dipyn o noson, a gobethio y bydd pawb yn cael modd i fyw. Welwn ni chi yno!"

Mae taith haf eisoes wedi'i threfnu ar ôl yr Eisteddfod a chyngherddau Nadolig yn y dyddiadur yn barod, a does dim arwydd bod bywyd yn mynd i arafu ar gyfer y mentoriaid o Only Men Aloud wrth iddyn nhw ddychwelyd at eu grwpiau i baratoi 300 o blant cynradd ar gyfer y cyngerdd.

Mae Craig yn sôn am y budd y caiff y bobl ifanc o'r profiad hwn ar llywyddiant y Brifwyl eleni. "Fe fydd yn sicr o ehangu'r gorwelion nhw, ac yn eu helpu i ddatblygu'u doniau a'u huanhudderau."

A chydah hyn, mae Craig, Dan a David yn ail-ymuno gyda'r plant ysgol i ail-afael yn yr ymarfer i sicrhau bod y perfformiad ar llywyddiant ymmergwrdd yn hen faes awyr Llandow, nos Wener 3 Awst am 8pm, yn berthfaith.

Mae rhai tocynnau ar ôl ar gyfer y cyngerdd. Ewch i www.eisteddfod.org.uk neu ffoniwch 0845 4090 800 i'w prynu.

Cynhelir Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg o 4-11 Awst. Am ragor o wybodaeth ewch arlein.

SIONED EDWARDS

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (A4231 BARRY DOCK LINK ROAD, BARRY) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF RIGHT TURN (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2012

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 30 mph in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The area of the A4231 Barry Dock Link Road to be affected is between the roundabout with the A4055 Cardiff Road and the roundabout with Gilbert Lane (Supermarket)

In addition, the Order known as The Vale of Glamorgan Council (A4231 Docks Link Road, Barry) (50mph Speed Restriction) Order 2005 will be suspended whilst the 30mph signs are in place.

Reason To allow essential road safety improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.

Duration From 06:00hrs on 15th July 2012, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the 30mph Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

SCHEDULE 3

2. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to turn right at the locations specified in Schedule 4.

SCHEDULE 4

Location The right turn from the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road into Coldbrook Road, Barry.

Alternative Route In a southeasterly direction to the roundabout at the A4055 Cardiff Road, then "U" turning at this roundabout, back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road then turning left into Coldbrook Road.

Location The right turn from Argae Lane onto the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Alternative Route In a southeasterly direction to the roundabout at the A4055 Cardiff Road, then "U" turning at this roundabout, back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Location The right turn from A4231 Barry Docks Link Road into Argae Lane

Alternative Route In a northwesterly direction to the roundabout at Gilbert Lane (Supermarket) then "U" turning at this roundabout and travelling back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road and turning left into Argae Lane.

Location No Right Turn from Coldbrook Road onto the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road

Alternative Route In a northwesterly direction to the roundabout at Gilbert Lane (Supermarket) then "U" turning at this junction and travelling back along the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Reason To allow essential road safety improvements to be undertaken, together with associated works.

Duration From 06:00hrs on 15th July 2012, for a maximum period of 18 months, or until such time as the No Right Turn Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

Dated this 28th day of June 2012.
Mr. M. Punter
Head of Visible Services,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG GORCHYMYN (DROS DRO) (CYFYNGU CYFLYMDRA I 30M.Y.A. A GWAHARDD TROI I'R DDE) (FFORDD GYSWLLT DOCIAU'R BARRI (A4231), Y BARRI) CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2012

Hysbysir trwy hyn y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwylgiedig) a phob pŵer galluogi arall, yn gwneud Gorchymyn ymhen o leiaf saith niwrnod ar ôl dyddiad yr hysbysiad hwn i'r diben cyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlen isod:

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd neb yn gyrru nac yn achosi nac yn caniatáu i neb arall yrru unrhyw gerbyd yn gyflymach na 30 m.y.a. yn y mannau a bennwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Y rhan o Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) sydd dan sylw yw'r darn rhwng y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Cardiff Road (A4055) a'r gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Gilbert Lane (Archfarchnad)

Hefyd bydd y Gorchymyn a adwaenir fel Gorchymyn (Cyfyngu Cyflymdra i 50m.y.a.) (Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231)) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2005 yn cael ei chiro nes bod yr arwyddion 30m.y.a. wedi'u gosod.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol ar gyfer diogelu'r ffordd ac unrhyw waith arall sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Cyfnod O 06:00 ar 15 Gorffennaf 2012 ymlaen am hyd at 18 mis, neu ar ôl i'r arwyddion traffig 30m.y.a. gael eu symud, pa un bynnag a fo'r dyddiad diweddaraf.

ATODLEN 3

2. Ni fydd neb yn troi i'r dde yn y mannau a bennwyd yn Atodiad 4 nac yn achosi nac yn caniatáu i unrhyw un arall wneud hynny.

ATODLEN 4

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde sy'n arwain o Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) i Coldbrook Road, Y Barri.

Llywybr arall Mynd i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain nes cyrraedd y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Cardiff Road (A4055), gwneud 'tro pedol' o gwmpas y gylchfan honno, mynd yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri, a throï i'r chwith i Coldbrook Road.

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde sy'n arwain o Argae Lane i Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231).

Llywybr arall Mynd i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain nes cyrraedd y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Cardiff Road (A4055), gwneud 'tro pedol' o gwmpas y gylchfan honno a mynd yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231).

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde sy'n arwain o Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) i Argae Lane.

Llywybr arall Mynd i gyfeiriad y gogledd-orllewin nes cyrraedd y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Gilbert Lane (Archfarchnad), gwneud 'tro pedol' o gwmpas y gylchfan honno, mynd yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231) a throï i'r chwith i Argae Lane.

Lleoliad Y troad i'r dde sy'n arwain o Coldbrook Road i Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri (A4231).

Llywybr arall Mynd i gyfeiriad y gogledd-orllewin nes cyrraedd y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu â'r Gilbert Lane (Archfarchnad), gwneud 'tro pedol' wrth y gyffordd honno a mynd yn ôl ar hyd Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri.

Rheswm Gwneud gwaith angenrheidiol ar gyfer diogelu'r ffordd ac unrhyw waith arall sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Cyfnod O 06:00 ar 15 Gorffennaf 2012 ymlaen am hyd at 18 mis, neu ar ôl i'r arwyddion traffig 30m.y.a. gael eu symud, pa un bynnag a fo'r dyddiad diweddaraf.

Dyddiedig 28 Mehefin 2012.

M. Punter,
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gwladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwernfô, CF5 6AA.



Cadoxton bowlers blow victory on the last five ends

A disastrous last five ends saw Cadoxton lose this home game against Murch from a healthy position, of 12 shots advantage.

Three of the four rinks were leading and the other was seven shots down. At the end of the game there was just one winning rink, skipped by Graham Brown, and an overall deficit of 17 shots. All four rinks lost shots during this period.

The change coincided with a downpour of rain, which the opposition adapted to much better, than the home side.

Scores: P Ellis, M Curtis, W Vaughan, H Craven 12-25; I Robertson, D Evans, W Eadie, G Brown 26-20; S Clarke, L Cundliffe, D Brook, D Kuhnell 17-24; D Tuck, M Mathews, J Davies, K Chedzoy 18-21. Final score: 73-90.

Cadoxton 'A' v Murch 'A' - (ML6)

The 'A' side travelled with a depleted side to meet Murch 'A', who were also struggling to make a team.

Both sides played short and the outcome was three losing rinks for the visitors, but a good win from the other rink, which allowed them to take the aggregate by one shot.

Scores: E & I Heppenstall, J Stewart, G Davies 14-15; S Clements, R Knight, R Harding 25-12; D Collard, K Tanner, I Dunbar 14-22; L Tanner, D Fanning, G Garland 15-18. Final score: 15-18.

Cadoxton v Romilly - Munro Cup

This Munro Cup game commenced at Cadoxton, and at the same time the rain started and continued steadily throughout.

The result was a narrow three-shot win for Romilly, after Cadoxton conceded seven shots on the last end with all rinks failing.

Kelvin Chedzoy and Don Kuhnell skipped their rinks to wins over Bryn Gough and Bob Wyatt. Kelvin's rink recovered from a slow start to draw level at 7-7, before a five took them in front. This was followed shortly by two threes, which gave them an unassailable lead.

Don's rink took control of their match, with some excellent bowling from the beginning, and moved into a 10-4 lead.

The visitors made better progress when full length jacks were instigated, with the home front players finding difficulty in the wet conditions. However, some good turn over shots stopped a complete comeback.

Graham Brown came

up against Alan Bryan and the visiting rink took a big lead with high scoring ends, to reach 19-3 at half way. An improvement brought the score to 13-21, but the final two ends were lost.

Howard Craven had Mel Newman as his opposition. The success in the early stages was shared until the score was tied 9-9 at the half way stage.

The visitors won the next three ends but the scores were levelled again on 14-14. Three further successes in the last four ends gave Romilly the win.

Scores: S Clarke, M Mathews, G Davies, H Craven 15-19; L Jones, D Cameron, A Woolcock, M Newman; S Clements, R Cole, D Evans, D Kuhnell 15-11; M Gershenson, G Whittaker, J Jones, B Wyatt; G Solomon, L Adams, W Vaughan, G Brown 13-25; P Gershenson, T Bloomfield, M Doyle, B Gough; D Fanning, H Hellyar, J Stewart, K Chedzoy 20-11; C Rees, P Hoad, G Trepleton, A Bryan. Final score: 63-66.

LLANTWIT bowlers travelled to Windsor (Penarth) for their Munro cup game on Wednesday, taking revenge for their defeat by them in the Carruthers Cup with a three rink, 66-58 shot win.

Graham Jones' rink were behind until the eighth end, then took control with Graham having an excellent match.

On one end, Llantwit were seven shots down when their skip produced a superb bowl to take the shot. Windsor only scored one shot on the last six ends to lose by three shots.

Danny Ahearn's rink top scored with the Llantwit skip enjoying beating his old club.

Derek Lancaster, on this rink, had a good game; after being down by six shots after five ends, Llantwit prevented Windsor scoring for eight ends while taking an eight-shot lead, finally winning by 11 shots.

Neville Young's rink faced a formidable foe in Windsor skip Ken McLeod but this failed to daunt Llantwit, with

Derek Mutlow at lead putting in some good bowls to give Llantwit a cracking start of nine shots up after five ends.

With good support from Ambrose Horgan and Mike Williams Llantwit came away with a five-shot win.

Steve Booker's rink started well, holding the lead until the sixth end against Mal Hope's rink, then fell away failing to score on the last six ends.

Rink scores: GJ 16-13, DA 21-10, NY 19-14, SB 10-21.

Llantwit played their second league match of the season when they visited St Josephs (Cardiff) on Saturday.

Despite winning on two rinks and only losing by one shot on another Llantwit lost 78-57.

Charles Hiscock's rink stormed into a seven-shot lead after only six ends.

St Josephs came back in the later stages, but Llantwit never lost their lead to win by four shots.

Neville Young's rink had a tight tussle with their opponents and on the 13th end Llantwit were down six shots, with some consistently good bowling from

Derek Mutlow and some good conversion shots from Mike Adams.

Llantwit turned the game around taking the next eight ends to win by two shots.

Graham Jones' rink, while not at their best, but put up a good fight. Down on the eighth end, they held on to take the lead on the 13th end only to stagnate for five ends to

lose by one shot.

Steve Booker's rink could not get going against a very strong rink. Fifteen shots down after seven ends, Llantwit had a mini revival when they went on short jacks; but they could not maintain this, failing to score on the last seven ends.

Rink scores: CH 16-12, NY 21-19, GJ 14-15, SB 6-32.

JY

Three out of three for Dinas

DINAS Powys second team made it three wins out of three for June with victory over Rhiwbina last Saturday.

Following victories over Barry Athletic by 12 points to 2, and over a very strong Penylan side by the same margin, Dinas were at home to Rhiwbina last Saturday and secured a 14 point to 0 victory.

Two rinks up and two down on five ends gave them a narrow three shot lead overall.

By the 10th end, Dinas had stamped their authority on the game increasing their lead to

13 shots.

By the 15th end they were 20 shots in front. Three rinks were up on the 18th end and with a 24-shot lead the game was just about secure.

A strong last two ends, scoring five shots, by the Neil Giles rink gave them a one-shot victory, securing the final two points to give the team all 14, and a 23-shot victory, 86-65.

Despite a strong finish, Dinas 1st Team suffered a disappointingly narrow defeat at Gilfach Bargoed, by three shots, ending their Carruthers Shield ambitions for this season.

AD

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale, June 19:

1st Mike Best and Mike Close 60.2 per cent; 2nd Bryn Gough and Dave Reed 59.17; 3rd Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews 58.75.

Bryn & Dave won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale; if you would like to join telephone 01446 733425 or 01446 418380 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

MB

Graham Brown came

DK



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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



The mouth-watering mini-rugby cake stall.

Festival week
A WEEK of festivities, that began with a tour of the communities, by the Festival Queen on Saturday, June 16, concluded with a community fun day at Kenfig Hill Rugby Club on Saturday, June 23.

It was a most successful week, in which most organisations in the community took part.

Everyone had something that suited their taste, including a concert by Kenfig Hill and District Male Voice Choir in Pysgah Chapel, a Compline Service in St James' Church, 'Stars in their Eyes' at Pyle Rugby Club, a martial arts demonstration in Pyle Life Centre, a coffee morning with songs from Mynydd Cyffrig Junior School in Llys Ton, 'Showtime' in the Talbot Community Centre, open day and afternoon tea at the KPC Youth Centre, a junior cricket tournament at Mynydd Cyffrig Junior School, cabaret night at Kenfig Hill Rugby Club, and a coffee morning with Scope in the Rees Centre.

Everything reached a climax on Saturday with the community fun day at the rugby club, opened by local MP Madeleine Moon.

Fortunately, the rain kept at bay for everyone to enjoy themselves with a merry-go-round, bouncy castle and a trampoline for the children and the parents able to try out martial arts, rifle shooting, kicking a football at a target and knocking tins off a shelf to win a prize.

Many also enjoyed a martial arts demonstration, the welfare cheer leaders and mini rugby. A Johnny Depp look-alike, dressed as Captain Jack Sparrow, wandered around the field to the delight of the children (and mums).

There were also many stalls where you could win a prize, as well as hot dogs, ice cream and freshly made doughnuts to be had.

To complete an entertaining afternoon for the children, the local fire fighters turned the hoses



COMMUNITY NEWS from KENFIG HILL AND PYLE

by Richard Sims

Telephone: 01656 746840

Mobile: 07802 439679

E-Mail: richardsims@talktalk.net

on them, which they thoroughly enjoyed!

The community council must be congratulated on hosting the festival week.

However, the festival committee, chaired by Coun Gina Hooper, are worthy of the highest praise for their months of hard work, which ended with such a well organised and entertaining festival and fun day.

Scope

anniversary
SCOPE will be celebrating 10 years at the Rees Centre in Kenfig Hill, assisting disabled adults to access activities of their choice in the local community, on Friday, July 6.

The centre provides projects that enable people to live more independent lifestyles, including sharing art, community companions and a community cafe.

To mark the occasion, they are having an open day at the centre, located behind the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill, between 2pm and 4.30pm.

Among the many activities will be Welsh dancers, a chair aerobics demonstration, face painting, a raffle and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome, so why not go along, enjoy an afternoon in pleasant surroundings and support the marvellous work done by Scope at the Rees Centre?

For further details, telephone 01656 741166.

Pupils' awards

MANY congratulations to the following pupils at Mynydd Cyffrig Junior School who were nominated for impressing the staff at the school last week: Elva vos de Mooy, class 1; Joshua Coombes, class 2; Ola Kruk, class 3; Mark

Underhill, class 4; Calvin Gorringer, class 5; Jacob Hesketh, class 6 and Bradley Jenkins, class 7. The headteacher's award went to Jack Underhill.

Sports day – Following the cancellation the previous week, the school held a very exciting sports day last Wednesday, June 20. With the weather not looking favourable, they made what turned out to be a good decision.

Parents and supporters turned out in force and every pupil performed to the best of their ability, which resulted in some very close finishes.

At the end of the day, it was a close fought result, with Mynydd Baeden coming first by the small margin of five points over Mynydd Margam, with Mynydd Tylwyn coming third and Mynydd Castell coming fourth.

Thanks go to the staff and to Mrs Greta Rogers for presenting the trophies.

Yet another pupil has been developing skills outside of the school.

They have had pupils dance at the O2 Arena in London, play rugby for west Wales and cricket for west Glamorgan, as well as many other achievements.

The latest pupil to gain recognition is Jack Underhill, who has been playing tennis at Swansea Tennis Centre since October last year.

He has been in the centre's junior squad for the last three months, training for two to three hours each week. Congratulations to Jack, on reaching his first final earlier this month.

Two pupils from the school, Senem Akpinar and Jack Underhill represented Bridgend county basketball in Nottingham recently, playing against five



ABOVE:

Harold Phillips, clerk to Pyle Community Council, relaxes with a hot dog...

other counties.

Both pupils, who captained their side for part of the tournament, were able to demonstrate their talents playing against very high standard teams.

Mr Martin Griffiths, the leader of the tour, was pleased with the way the two pupils conducted themselves during the weekend. They were a credit to the school.

School choir: On Tuesday last week, the school choir entertained the residents and guests at Llys Ton. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves listening to the singing, led by Miss Brace.

The choir also found it great fun performing in front of the residents and also talking to some of them afterwards. It is hoped that they can return in the future for a repeat performance.

Charity donation:

The school normally supports a charity as they find it helps children to understand the needs of others and to make a little sacrifice to help those less fortunate than themselves.

This year, Mr Goldsworthy is aware of the wonderful contribution made by everyone to support of the new reading scheme at the school.

However, with the help of Kenfig Hill and Pyle Community Council, he is hoping that they can support brass teacher Jonathan Mainwaring, will be attempting to climb Mount Kilimanjaro on August 19 to raise funds



ABOVE: Madeleine Moon MP and Coun Kay John, with the Festival Queen and her attendants.



ABOVE: Stan Rumble with the ladies from SHOUT.



ABOVE: The Bethel Community Church stall.



ABOVE: Captain Jack Sparrow pays a visit to the SCOPE tent.



ABOVE: Kenfig Hill ATC helped with the organisation of the community fun day. (This photograph by Natasha Hirst).

Photographs by
RICHARD SIMS

Wellbeing Centre
ACTIVITIES being held by the Mental Health Matters, Wales at the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill, on Wednesday, June 27, include person to person with Kelly Cox from 2.30pm to 3.30pm; arts and crafts from 2pm to 4pm, and the reading group from 3pm to 4pm.

There will also be a social afternoon from 1pm to 5pm.

Centre AGM
THE Talbot Centre will hold its annual general meeting on July 16, in the centre, at 2.30pm.

Parish news
Sea Sunday: A member of the Seamen's Mission will be joining the congregation for the Sunday morning Eucharist on July 8 at St Theodore's Church.

Summer fayre: This year's summer fayre, which will be opened by Mr Goldsworthy, acting headteacher of Mynydd Junior School, and will be held at St Theodore's Church on Saturday, July 14, starting at 2pm.

The theme for the fayre will be The Olympics.

Book mark your views on Library proposals

THE public is being asked to have their say on proposals to create a bigger and more accessible library for Bridgend.

Bridgend County Borough Council wants to develop its library service and attract a wider range of users in the future. A wide-reaching consultation process will run from June 29 to September 21, asking users and non-users to give their views.

The council wants to explore how it could create a more accessible library with longer opening hours, similar to those operating in Pyle and the Ogmere Valley. That could involve moving the current Wyndham Street

library provision to Bridgend Recreation Centre as part of its multi-million pound development, where it would remain under council management.

The council also wants to consider ways in which it can improve, such as offering a greater selection of books and lending materials, boosting activities for children and adults, providing better ICT services, making the library fully accessible for disabled people.

Also by introducing new facilities which are not currently available, such as toilets, baby changing areas and car parking.

Details of the consultation will be publicised in Bridgend Library and other public areas, and at: www.bridgend.gov.uk

Pyle and Kenfig golf ladies' news

PYLE and Kenfig Golf Club ladies' section hosted very successful ladies' and mixed open meetings in May.

The results of the ladies' open were: First – Liz Lovell and Jane Hines (Langland Bay), 42 points; Second – B Llewellyn and H Young (Radyr), 41 points, taken on count back from E Caveney and C Henton (Cardiff), also with 41.

The mixed open results were: First – A and R Smith (Vale), 43 points; Second – N and C Bevan (Swansea Bay), 40; Third on countback – Alison Evans and Andrew Williams (Pyle and Kenfig) also with 40 points.

The traditional closed Bank Holiday mixed foursomes was well supported despite the dismal weather conditions. Spirits were lifted by the excellent carvery awaiting the entrants when they came in.

Winners were: Alison Evans and Andrew Williams with 39 points; Second – Elizabeth Attwood and Geraint Evans with 38; Third – Jackie Jones and Tony Forbes, 37.

The lady captain, Teri Ward, organised a three clubs and a putter team competition to celebrate

the Queen's Jubilee.

All the ladies entered into the spirit of the occasion by dressing in red, white and blue and a traditional British tea was provided after-wards.

The competition was won by Teri, Alison Hurry and Alison Evans, taken on count back from Gwyneth Parsons, Tina Hoskins and Annette Rhys.

Dianne Hubbard, Carol Hutchings and Norma Foreman took third place.

The Sinclair Trophy, donated by Mrs Kay Sinclair, was won by Tina Hoskins with 42 points. In second place was Sue Forbes with 39, taken on count back from Claire Morris.

Other qualifying competition results were: the Dennis Phillips' Cup: Winner – Cheryl Western; runner up – Del Raikes. The Joan Jones qualifier: Winner – Gaynor Lavelle; runner up – Jackie Jones. The Hilston Trophy (36 Handicappers' Cup): Winner – Karen Lane; runner up – Cheryl Bird.

Pyle and Kenfig welcomes all golfers and the course is open all year round. Contact: secretary@pandkgolf-club.co.uk

ALISON EVANS

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LIONS CLUB COMMUNITY FAYRE A BIG ATTRACTION

Photographs by
ANDY WICKS
Tel: 07855 374478

IN recent years, the Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club has revived the summer community fayre, holding it at Llantwit Major Rugby Club and drawing visitors from far and wide.

Although the weather was a little unsettled, the event went ahead without disruption, and the organisers were rewarded with an excellent turn-out of stall-holders and visitors, who clearly enjoyed the day!



**ABOVE: What's going on?
It's a water melon-eating contest!**



They're back by popular demand: Kenfig's 'World in Music'

FOLLOWING last year's success, the Kenfig Hill & District Male Voice Choir is returning to the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, on Saturday July 14, with another fast-moving show, this year with music from around the world in a show called: 'The World in Music'.

The choir will be joined by its

youth choir 'Crescendo', and also its newly-formed children's choir 'Da Capo'.

Once more, the guest star this year will be Eve Sherratt with Tony Mullins as compere and soloist. The choir has worked with both Eve and Tony on many occasions and is delighted they are able to join them again.

The night will also see the release of the choir's new album, entitled 'Tall as the Pines'. The choir is proud to have been able

to include both Crescendo and Da Capo on the album, professionally recorded in the Ty Cerdd Studios in the Millennium Centre, Cardiff.

Last year's concert was completely sold out and it is expected that tickets will be in even greater demand this year.

Tickets from £8 to £12. Remember to book early to avoid disappointment.

HAROLD PHILLIPS,
chairman

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Birthdays

Llantwit Major's very own 'Ma Baker'...

SUE BAKER

Hope you have a lovely birthday on June 28th

Love from all your friends at the Glamorgan GEM
x x x



Happy 30th Birthday

Helen Leanne ROWE

2nd July 2012

Lots of love, Mum & Dad, Hubby Steve, Lee and Leeann and Danielle, Dean and Lily.

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Public Notice

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

Development that may affect a Conservation Area / Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00585/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Construction of detached dwelling, amendments to approved application 2010/00128/FUL
Location/Lleoliad:	Ty Maen Farm, Colwinston
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Colwinston
Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00599/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Construction of a detached dwelling and associated works
Location/Lleoliad:	12, Park Road (proposed 12B), Penarth
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Affecting the Penarth Conservation Area
Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00600/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Construction of a detached dwelling and associated works.
Location/Lleoliad:	12, Park Road (proposed 12A), Penarth
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Affecting the Penarth Conservation Area

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00572/CAC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings
Location/Lleoliad:	12, Park Road, Penarth
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Penarth

Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00568/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Two storey extension to rear to provide sitting room/study at ground floor level and bedroom and shower room to first floor
Location/Lleoliad:	Ty Fry Lodge, Pendoylan
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II
Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00589/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	The proposal is to install an external radio antenna on the clock tower of Hen Goleg to provide IT network connectivity.
Location/Lleoliad:	Hen Goleg, College Fields Close, Barry
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00583/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	New composting concrete pad
Location/Lleoliad:	Llwynhelig Farm, Cowbridge
Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00595/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Replacement of dairy unit buildings
Location/Lleoliad:	Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe
Application No./Rhif y cais:	2012/00625/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Retrospective change of use of existing scrap metal salvage storage yard to a scrap metal salvage storage, sorting and light processing yard.
Location/Lleoliad:	Island Garage, Rear of 16, Redbrink Crescent, Barry Island

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Dated / Dyddiedig: 28th June, 2012

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

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Happy Birthday

Sue Baker

Love you lots

Joe, Abi & hubby Darren xxx

Family Notices

SWIFT Samuel

Peacefully, on Saturday June 23, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a long illness; Sam, of High Meadow, Llantwit Major, beloved husband of Jean, father of Mandy, loving step-dad of Allan, beloved Daddy of Sharon, a much loved Bampa of Kyle and a respected father-in-law of Deg and Barbara.

Funeral Monday July 2. Service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm where friends please meet. Family flowers only, by request, donations in lieu, if desired to Parkinson's UK c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend, CF31 1HE, telephone 01656 650831.

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• Family Notices • Property Birthdays

• Recruitment • Anniversaries

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• Car sales

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Business as usual at Llandow Kart Club

AFTER the high profile Welsh Championships, it was back to business as normal for Llandow Kart Club as round five of its summer championships arrived in June – complete with a return to unsettled weather.

Despite the conditions, the entry was boosted by the addition of drivers from the RAF Premier class and both the Kartmania TKM 4-Stroke and Honda Challenge series, taking the total number of drivers to 107 for the weekend.

Five drivers got things underway in the Bambino class, all now accomplished pilots with several meetings under their belts. It showed, as Brooklyn Thomas, Shayne Clarke, Jakob Chamberlain, Oliver Thomas, and Jack Broughton all got below the weekend's target time to earn themselves the gold certificate and medallion.

No fewer than 27 karts were on track for the Cadet class, with both Honda and Comer running together as a result of the congested programme.

Tom Rawlings and Kieran Clarke appeared to be the ones to beat in the smaller Comer con-

tingent, despite both picking up penalties in the heats. When the silverware was on the line, it was Rawlings who came out on top, but with Lewis Griffiths following him home to claim second, Clarke came a little adrift in third.

Cadet Honda was fought out between Hugo Holmes and Ross Thomas, who each tasted victory in the heats before proving hard to split in the final. Holmes eventually got the verdict by a scant half-second, with Jenson Butterfield rounding out the podium, ahead of Ross Deal and Stuart Ferguson.

Honda Junior welcomed another brace of newcomers in Christiano Nardone and Patrick Hill, boosting numbers to seven, but there was no denying Ben Stevens, who swept all four races, including the final, to increase his championship advantage.

Once again, Thomas Croydon and Tom Ford provided Stevens' main opposition, and duly completed the podium.

The combined Junior Rotax and Minimax grid also boasted seven drivers and, without the interlopers who stole the glory and C plates in May, Rob Ellis and Ben Davies were able to battle over Junior class honours.

Davies held the advantage after winning two of the day's three heats, but it was Ellis who emerged on top when it mattered, with his rival retiring on the penultimate lap.

That allowed two of the category's four novices – Toby Allen and Thomas Stride – to join Ellis on the podium, with Elliot Hagerty only just missing out in his challenge for third.

Rookie Ceran Sokhi claimed Minimax honours ahead of Jodie Handford, despite the latter taking two of the three heats.

The Junior TKM remained in double figures, with ten karts taking to the circuit, but reigning champion Ross Chell was in no mood to be beaten, claiming victory in all four races. Ryan Edwards and Yousuf Ashraf led the chase throughout the heats and it was fitting that the pair shared the podium with Chell, with Ashraf coming out on top by a matter of tenths as the flag fell.

Having added another Welsh title to his collection, Simon Evans rightly started the weekend as favourite for the Senior Honda class, and delivered another consummate performance by sweeping all four outings, including an eight-second victory in the final.



Miles Murphy (kart 7) came out on top of the Kartmania Senior TKM 4-Stroke battle in round three at Llandow.

Photos courtesy of: **HARDY RODDE.**

The Lewis name proved to a constant in the fruitless pursuit of the champion, although former club and Welsh title holder Gareth had to give best to namesake Alex in one of the heats. Ferdinand Ball and Danny Griffiths both took top three finishes in the qualifying races, before Ball rounded out the podium in the final.

Senior Rotax numbers were a little down on their peak, with just 11 karts turning out for the weekend, but that did not deter Matthew Dowers from stamping his mark on proceedings. Two heat wins – the other went to David Entwistle – were the precursor to another in the final, where he led home Entwistle and Ashley Lewis, with Sebastian Hutchinson taking fourth spot.

Meynell, Paul Heyhoe and David Dean took it in turns to give chase, with Dean heading Meynell on the final podium.

The Kartmania series both staged double-heads in south Wales, with Thomas McMurray and Miles Murphy taking the two Senior TKM 4-Stroke finals, and Steve Welsh twice coming out on top in an 18-strong Senior Honda field.

RESULTS:

BAMBINO – Gold Award

Jack Broughton (Birel)
Jakob Chamberlain (Birel)
Shayne Clarke (Topkart)
Brooklyn Thomas (Birel)
Olly Thomas (Birel)

CADET COMER

1. Tom Rawlings (Zip)
2. Lewis Griffiths (Zip)
3. Kieran Clarke (Zip)

CADET HONDA

1. Hugo Holmes (Zip)
2. Ross Thomas (Wright)
3. Jenson Butterfield

(BRK)

JUNIOR HONDA

1. Ben Stevens (7Kart)
2. Thomas Croydon (Jade)
3. Tom Ford (Biz)
JUNIOR TKM

1. Ross Chell (Jade)

2. Yousuf Ashraf (Jade)

3. Ryan Edwards

MINI MAX

1. Ceran Sokhi (Kosmic)

2. Jodie Handford

JUNIOR ROTAX

1. Rob Ellis (Tonykart)

2. Toby Allen (CRG)

3. Thomas Stride (CRG)

SENIOR HONDA

1. Simon Evans (7Kart)

2. Gareth Lewis (7Kart)

3. Ferdinand Ball (MS)

SENIOR ROTAX

1. Matthew Dowers (Kosmic)

2. David Entwistle (Kosmic)

3. Ashley Lewis (CRG)

ROTAX 177

1. Simon Wheeler (CRG)

2. Wayne Stone (Tonykart)

3. Nicky Coombs (Tonykart)

RAF PREMIER

1. David Entwistle

(Kosmic)

2. David Dean (Solo)

3. Wayne Ditcham (Gillard)

KARTMANIA TKM 4-STROKE

Rd.3

1. Thomas McMurray (TalKo)

2. Liam Jones (Jade)

3. Joel Saunders (Arrow)

Rd.4

1. Miles Murphy (TalKo)

2. Joel Saunders (Arrow)

3. Zach Jones (Jade)

KARTMANIA HONDA CHALLENGE

Rd.3

1. Steve Welsh (MS)

2. Nathan Read (7Kart)

3. Charlie Bingham (BRM)

Rd.4

1. Steve Welsh (MS)

2. Nathan Read (7Kart)

3. Charlie Bingham (BRM)

Best Novice: Ceran Sokhi (Minimax)

Driver of the Day: Patrick Hill (Junior Honda)

CRAIG LLEWELLYN

St Bride's Major triumph in schools' football event



Adventurer Maria wins 'Oscar' award

A BONVILSTON woman, Maria Leijerstam, won a prestigious award at the 'Oscars of Adventure' night in London, hosted by Extreme World Races.

She won the Oscar of Adventure for completing the world's first Siberian Black Ice race, becoming the first woman in history to cycle the length of the frozen Lake Baikal on the central Siberian Plateau.

It was presented on Friday, in front of 500 people from the adventure community who have been to the North Pole, South Pole or to Lake Baikal in Siberia.

In her speech, she commented that the event was more of a "survival exercise than a race", due to the extreme conditions.

Out of 30 starters, only eight people got to the north of the Lake, with many succumbing to frostbite, fatigue, and even falling through the ice.

Since returning home



Maria Leijerstam of Bonvilston

in April, she has already run a double marathon race as well as placed second in a surf-ski kayak race in south Wales.

She's planning to tackle the Devises to Westminster Canoe race early next year, which involves kayaking 110 miles non-stop along the River Thames in 24 hours.

"I'm already planning expeditions for 2013 and 2014, and I've got some very exciting adventures coming up," Maria said.

Cowbridge Rotary Club's Ian Pearson, with the winning team from St Bride's Major.

COWBRIDGE Rotary Club recently brought local primary schools together to compete in a between-a-side junior football tournament.

St Bride's Major were the winning team in what is now an annual event.

The teams were from: St Brides; St David's, Colwinston; Y Bont Faen, Llansannor, Pendoylan and Llangan, and a Rotary spokesman said it was a close fought and entertaining

competition. It was held at Colwinston and Leah Croke, the tournament organiser and a teacher at the school, was relieved that the weather was fine, avoiding the need to reschedule the event, as had happened in previous years!

Rotarian Ian Pearson awarded medals and certificates to the runners-up and winners, praising the high quality of football played by all the teams.

Bowlers battle!

Llantwit A were at home to Rumney for the 6th Division match on Saturday, June 23 and it was a difficult one.

About half way through the game it started to rain and came on heavy for the rest of the day. Richard George's rink stuck at it and were worthy winners with only a one shot lead.

Young Danny A'Heare stuck at it and is improving with every game while Nick Parry's rink of P.Brown, A.Gibbard and K.Williams were 5-3 up but Rumney ran away with it, winning by 11 shots.

J.Nixon, P.Aston and Mick Mason went down by 10 shots, but Richard Gray's rink of I.Williamson, R.Williams and M.Jones were the heroes of the hour, only allowing the visitors to score on 5 ends.

Rumney had no answer to the devastating display of bowling of the home team and it would be impossible to single out any player as they were all on top form.

Rink scores: R.George 23-22; N.Parry 19-30; M.Williams 15-25; R.Gray 26-14. Final score: 83-91. **WE**

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LOCAL PRIMARY PUPILS COMPETE IN SCHOOLS GYMNASTICS 'OLYMPICS'

Llantwit Major students were involved in organising the event.



All the young gymnasts who took part.



Pupils were able to get close to an Olympic torch.

LLANTWIT Major Comprehensive school held an Olympics themed inter-school competition recently for pupils in local primary schools in years 5 and 6.

There were 45 young gymnasts and pupils from the comprehensive school helped to organise and judge the competition. All the gymnasts performed two floor routines and two vaults (one voluntary and one set).

The standard was extremely high. The winning boys' team was St Illtyd's, with a score of 147.8, with Rhose coming in a close second.

In the girls' competition, the results were

reversed, with Rhose coming first with 147 and St Illtyd's second.

In the mixed section, St Athan were crowned winners. The overall winning team was Rhose, with St Illtyd's second, followed by Eagleswell and finally St

Athan.

All performances were of a very high standard; the individuals who achieved the highest score overall were, Kyle Cates and Evelyn Heis, both from Rhose Primary School.

SL

EMILY IS STILL RIDING WINNERS

EMILY Jones, who rode her first winner at the Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases on Come On Sonny back in 1989, is still catching the judge's eye.

A pundit for the racing channel At The Races, Emily recently won the 20,000 Euro HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak World Ladies Championship in Germany and has qualified for the final to be held in Abu Dhabi in November.

Emily has ridden winners on the flat, over hurdles, over jumps and also made a name for herself in the world of Arabian horse racing.

BRIAN LEE

Gym coach shows off her Olympic torch!

PUPILS SHARE IN THE EXCITEMENT



VALE Gymnastics pupils had a special surprise when one of their coaches, Lorelei Westcott, brought her Olympic torch to the gym.

Lorelei completed her section of the Olympic torch relay in Barry on

May 26, with many of the pupils turning up to support her.

All the children (and especially the parents) were clearly excited about having their turn to hold her Olympic torch and be photographed with it!

Cavaliers under-9s win tournament



ABOVE: The under-9s celebrate.

Llantwit Major Cavaliers under-9s have won the Sunday cricket tournament at Barry Athletic, after going through undefeated.

In beating Cardiff, Barry and Penarth in two consecutive weeks, all players played particularly well and to pick out names would not do justice to a brilliant team performance.

The Cardiff and Vale youth league normally plays under-11 games on a Monday evening, under-13 on a Tuesday evening, under-15 on a Thursday evening and under-9 tournaments on a number of Sunday mornings.

The club also plays a senior midweek side and a Colts side on a Wednesday night in the Vale of Glamorgan Midweek League with

the 1st and 2nd XI's playing in the South Wales Cricket Association on a Saturday and the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League on a Sunday.

DC

Table tennis

THE table tennis club which operates at the Cwm Talwg Community Hall, Barry, will re-open on Wednesday, July 11 at 6pm, following a summer recess.

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GEM sport

Could the test series whitewash pay dividends in the long-term?

ON the eve of the third and final rugby test in Sydney on Saturday, caretaker Welsh coach Robert Howley mused: "We know what we have to do to beat Australia, but there is a difference between knowing how to win and achieving that aim."

Announcing just one change from the second test (on the replacements' bench, where hooker Richard Hibbard, whose penalty giveaway on the stroke of full time was so costly in Melbourne, had made way for Ken Owens) Howley added: "The players can take some credit for the way they played for the large part of the match; but that will be scant consolation if they don't come home with a win in the series."

His wry remarks were given added weight in the wake of yet another frustrating Welsh defeat, this time by a single point, which completed the Wallaby tour whitewash and extended Australia's dominance over the years to 24 wins in 35 matches since the two nations first clashed in 1908.

As the young tourists flew home this week, they had justifiable cause to reflect that it could well have been Wales celebrating, not only their first victory on Australian soil for 43 years, but even an historic test series of their own – such was the narrow margin between victory and defeat in all three see-saw matches – with the result literally in doubt right up to the final blast of the referee's whistle.

First came an eight-point loss in the 27-19 opener at Brisbane, when the Welsh team were "caught by surprise" and ultimately paid the price for a sluggish first quarter.

This was followed by a two-point deficit (25-23) in Melbourne, when Wales naively failed to retain possession, instead kicking for position just before the final whistle.

Finally, came the 20-19 heartbreak finale in Sydney, when they again let victory slide through their fingers, after 80 minutes of all-out endeavour, marred by lack of composure and careless indiscipline, which yielded a stream of penalties from the inconsistent, whistle-happy South African referee, Craig Joubert (more of him later).

The stand-in coach had resisted calls for a

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John



LEFT: The pain of a one-point defeat in Sydney, and the loss of the series, could yet prove a spur to future success against the Tri nations giants.

change in the Wales starting line-up to inject pace, particularly at half-back – giving a vote of confidence to a battling team that had, nevertheless, twice narrowly failed to prevail against a reshaped Australian side – which had seemed there for the taking at the start of the tour, particularly after its shock defeat to Scotland.

What turned into rugby's version of 'place-kick ping-pong', began when Wales were penalised after less than four minutes and that scourge of the previous two tests, outside-half Berrick Barnes, slotted it over.

Wales' own 'Mr Reliable', Leigh Halfpenny, equalised with a penalty of his own, before Barnes landed a second penalty. Halfpenny promptly retaliated after the collapsing Wallaby scrum was penalised (a pattern that was endlessly repeated, without extreme sanction being applied by a bemused and bemusing Mr Joubert!) as prop Adam Jones & Co turned the screw on the hapless Australian front row.

Unfortunately, lack of precision was again proving the Welsh Achilles heel, with handling errors at the restart and at the lineout creeping in, and the referee's persistent whistle-blowing played an ever more deciding role in the outcome.

The inevitable result? Two more penalties for Barnes and one for Halfpenny to make the halftime score 12-9 to the hosts.

In between, came a wonderful breakaway move out of defence from Wales, which sadly ended with centre Jonathan Davies being isolated; concussed skipper, Sam Warburton,

having to depart the field of play; and a drop goal attempt by outside half Rhys Priestland sailing far wide of the uprights.

The second half followed a similar stop-start pattern to the first, thanks to the man in the middle with the metaphorical Number 31 on his back; and Halfpenny had a chance to draw Wales level, after yet another penalty award at the scrum – but his long range attempt struck an upright and was cleared by the defence.

Their relief did not last long, however – for on the hour, with the Welsh forwards battering away at the hosts' line, the again outstanding Ryan Jones, who earlier had to leave the field for blood repairs, plunged over for a deserved try under the posts, converted by Halfpenny to give Wales a 16-12 lead.

Almost immediately, as Wales lowered their guard, Australia clawed back a one-point lead with an unconverted try; but then Welsh scrum pressure told once more, to yield three more points for the boot of Halfpenny – and a slender 19-17 lead with just 10 minutes left on the clock.

As in the previous test, though, Welsh lack of control at a critical juncture coughed up yet another punishing penalty, to edge Australia 20-19 in front, with time fast running out.

That was the signal for Wales to belatedly send on the sadly under-used James Hook, who made an immediate impact with a typically instinctive chip-ahead and chase into space, easily outstripping defenders, but



unluckily seeing the ball bounce into touch with the undefended line at his mercy.

It was to be Wales' last throw of the dice, as the final whistle signalled the end of a match (and a series) that the Grand Slam champions know was not so much won by a vastly superior, southern hemisphere side, as turned on frustrating flaws in their own game, which hopefully, can be ironed out by experience.

While talk of 'learning curves' and 'lessons to be learned' is now becoming tediously repetitive, it is also true to say that this fast-developing young Welsh squad have time on their side still, as they build towards Warren Gatland's main goal – the next Rugby World Cup – and other prime target milestones along the way.

More immediately, it will be fascinating to see if the painful experience of narrow, last-gasp defeats in three tests against a team, that after all, is ranked second in the world, can translate into a winning streak when the two hemispheres next clash in the autumn internationals at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff.

The fact that this prospect can even be contemplated, is testament to the remarkable strides made in the four short years since head coach Warren Gatland took over the helm of a national team that was once the laughing stock of world rugby.

It is something the critics would do well not to forget.

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PENCOED CELEBRATE GOOD SEASON

PENCOED first team had their presentation night on Saturday, June 23, with special guest speaker Rick O'Shea.

Awards were given out and each second team player had their own Division One championship medal for winning the league.

New player/coaches Aaron Halse and captain Ken Morris will be taking up some demanding roles for the next season as Keith Burke and Matthew Thomas have stepped down from their own individual roles in the set up.

Next up for Pencoed is Shane Williams' beach rugby tournament on July 21 at Swansea, and then some friendlies on August 11 and 18 at

Caerphilly and Pontyclun. Pencoed R.F.C wish to thank all who helped and supported them over the last season. Anyone interested in joining the team contact the club on 01656 860152.

Award winners: player of year - Jamie Williams (not available for award night so second team Gareth Ward and Tom Davies accepted award); captain of seconds Justin Jones (not available, so Gareth Ward accepted award); captain's trophy - Ken Morris; top try scorer - Aaron Halse; most promising player Dan Howells; most improved player - Liam Halse; 1,000 point scorer - Marc Davies; clubman of year - Wil Jones; player of year - Keiron Moor; players' player of year - Marc Davies. JH



Most promising player, Dan Howells



Most improved player Liam Halse with Rick O'Shea.

PHOTOS BY JULIE HANCOCK



Player of year, Keiron Moor.

Police rugby training

SOUTH Wales Police Youth have started training at Waterton Cross every Sunday at 11am; current and new players welcome.

The seniors have also started training at Waterton Cross every Thursday from 6.30 pm, old and new players welcome.

KM